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10 June 1980

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

No. 2130

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INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

'LE MONDE' CITES CAIRO SOURCES' SATISFACTION ON SA'UD REMARKS, WEIZMAN

LD280815 Paris LE MONDE in French 27 May 80 p 32

["J-P. P-H." Cairo dispatch: "Saudi Arabia Would Be Ready To Join in the Middle East Peace Process, States Crown Prince Fahd"]

[Text] Cairo--Two of Cairo's three major morning dailies give pride of place on Monday to the Saudi crown prince's "important statements," but no one in Cairo is risking giving his opinion until that of the RAIS is divulged. However, a close collaborator of the president stated to us: "Fahd's remarks, as well as Weizman's resignation are completely in our favor, but will Washington be capable of exploiting these events for the food of peace in the region?"

If the shift in Riyadh takes precise shape, it will be possible to say that it was preceded by a period of "detente" between Egypt and Arabia. Since the end of last year, the RAIS and the Cairo press have progressively been curbing their hostility toward the Saudi emirs. There have been contacts between the two capitals, notably via former U.S. ambassador to Cairo Herman Eilts. While passing through here several weeks ago Mr Jean de Lipkowski, former minister and rally for the republic national secretary for international affairs, was received by Mr al-Sadat, to whom he gave the impression that the Gaullists also found that Mr Giscard d'Estaing was involving himself too much on the side of the opponents of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty "at a time when the Saudis seem to be wanting to modify their views on this subject."

Finally, and very recently, to please the Saudi ruling family the RAIS expressed his "disgust" at the British film "Death of a Princess," which is banned in Egypt and which, in Mr al-Sadat's view, constituted an attack on "the sacred values of the family." (This film shows the execution of a Saudi princess, aged 19, and her lover, for adultery.)

The weekend's other event in the Middle East, the resignation of Israeli Defense Minister General Weizman, apart from the official regrets, is also arousing a certain satisfaction in Cairo insofar as it further weakens Mr Begin's position and clarifies the political complexion of a man whom most Egyptian leaders want to see as one of the "heads" of a future Israeli Government, less intransigent than the president cabinet.

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

IRAQ'S NA'IM HADDAD ON GULF, ARAB PROBLEMS, SUPERPOWERS' POLICIES

LD290947 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 24-30 May 80 pp 19-21

[Interview with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Na'im Haddad in Baghdad by Huda al-Murr--date not given]

[Excerpt] Baghdad--[Question] What are the reasons for the dispute between you and Iran and when will it end?

[Answer] The reasons for the dispute are very clear. We consider that the Iranian regime has an imperial, racist and expansionist tendency and believes it can fulfill its dreams by subjugating the Arab homeland to its will. This is a very old tendency. The best proof of this is its invasion and occupation of the three Arab islands [Greater and Lesser Tunbs and Abu Musa]. In the past we demanded these islands from the shah, saying: "You must withdraw from the three islands if you want to establish good relations with the Arab nation, particularly Iraq. We do not allow the occupation of any part of Arab soil."

[Question] But in the past you concluded an agreement with the shah in Algiers in which you ceded part of Shatt al-'Arab?

[Answer] The Algiers agreement was not concluded willingly by us. We were compelled to conclude it because we were waging a battle in the northern part of the country, in which American imperialism, the Zionist entity and the shah's regime were participating. Also, our situation inside the country was difficult. Therefore, we agreed to cede part of our sovereignty over Shatt al-'Arab, believing that this was an interim solution to end the crisis we were experiencing. Today, however, Iran must stop threatening the Arab regimes because we do not allow this.

[Question] But Iran says that you started this battle because you supplied some Iranian areas with arms and fund to fight the Iranian revolution?

[Answer] We advised the Iranian regime to resolve the nationalities problem for its own benefit--that is if it realizes its own interests. Iran must solve the nationalities problem, particularly the Arab nationality

problem, by granting self-rule to the minorities. This is our advice to the Iranians because the nationalities problem cannot be resolved by arms or by killing citizens as this creates a state of widespread conflict among the people. Our people in Arabistan made a substantial contribution to the revolution against the shah. Their demand for independence is long-standing, as are the demands of the Kurds and Turks.

[Question] What business do you have in the inter-Iranian fighting.

[Answer] The Persian regime is trying to kill innocent Arabs. We do not allow this to take place under our own eyes and within earshot.

[Question] And for this reason you have supported the Arabs in Iran and...?

[Answer] We support not only the Arabs in Iran but every human being aspiring for freedom, be he in Latin America or Black Africa. We support every person struggling against colonialism. This is our humanitarian duty--to give aid to every oppressed people. At present we are supporting the Kurdish people to attain their freedom. We are receiving tens of thousands of Kurdish refugees from Iran daily. We are also helping the Iranian strugglers and regard the Iranian regime as suppressing the Iranian peoples, aside from the fact that it continues to occupy a basic part of our territories. Were it sincere, this regime would have shown its good intention by withdrawing from the Arab islands which were occupied by the shah.

[Question] Is there any mediation in this connection at present?

[Answer] Many have tried to mediate but our response has been that there was no room for mediation because we reject this principle. If the Iranian regime is sincere and wishes to have good-neighborly relations with Iraq, it should not interfere in our affairs so as not to give us an opportunity to interfere in its affairs. We have clear specific demands from the Iranian regime. These are:

1--That it withdraw from the three Arab islands,

2--That it rescind the Algiers agreement and restore our full sovereignty over Shatt al-'Arab,

3--That it stop threatening other Arab countries and

4--That it desist from claiming that the gulf is Persian because the gulf is 100-percent Arab.

It is for this reason that we rejected mediation part and parcel.

[Question] It is known that Iraq used to be a member of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. The front suddenly held its recent conference last month. Iraq did not attend. Why?

[Answer] At the Steadfastness and Confrontation summit conference (1977) which was held in the wake of the Camp David agreement, Iraq had a viewpoint, namely that a plan be worked out for the progressive regimes and the PLO to seriously confront the Camp David resolutions. The [Ba'th] Party had warned in advance of the settlement policy because it had anticipated the results that were later reached at Camp David. It was the settlement policy and the approval of this policy by certain Arab regimes that brought us to Camp David and the American settlement. Everybody knew from the beginning that the party rejected the Rogers plan and all the proposals subsequently made by American imperialism and some other states. It also rejected UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. At the Tripoli summit (1977), we had a working paper for the conference but it was rejected by the brother leaders.

[Question] Why was your working paper rejected?

[Answer] Because it denounced the settlement policy part and parcel, particularly Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. The Syrian regime approved of Resolution 338. At that time, the party proposed the establishment of the "Pan-Arab Popular Front" provided that a strategic program was drawn up to confront the Zionist Aggressions and followed by a plan to ward off this aggression, in which the progressive Arab regimes would participate.

[Question] What was the result?

[Answer] We did not get a serious response from the Arab parties. Each Arab party was busy with itself and its regime and with how to protect its regime and not with how to contribute to the operation of liberating Palestine. For this reason we withdrew from the Tripoli conference and issued a statement opposing the settlement policy and explaining the reasons for our withdrawal from that summit. If we were to study the subject now, we would discover that our expectations were correct because the Tripoli summit and its results turned out to be nothing more than a propaganda facade--that is, it did not contribute anything worth mentioning to the Arab struggle. After this failure we called for the Baghdad summit (1978). The conference achieved positive results which at the time we termed "minimum resolutions" and every Arab regime was given freedom to offer whatever it could above this minimum. Before and after the Baghdad summit resolutions we sought serious confrontation and the formulation of a complete plan to confront the imperialist and Zionist designs.

[Question] What is this plan?

[Answer] The use of oil as a weapon. By this we mean the nationalization of all the oil resources in any country which can join us. We had prepared all our military capabilities for this. During our discussions with Syria we consulted each other on dispatching our forces to Syria. I say that there can be no serious confrontation unless the Iraqi arena is

welded with the Syrian arena and unless the armies are deployed in the confrontation arena. Also, the Arab economy must be put at the disposal of the battle.

[Question] What were the obstructions that precluded the Syrian and the Iraqi armies from coming together?

[Answer] The Syrian regime refused to have any Iraqi soldier move into the Syrian arena.

[Question] Are there new negotiations between you and Syria?

[Answer] Our relations with the Syrian regime are now different after that regime had taken unity, which we were seeking to achieve, as a cover plot against our regime.

[Question] But the Syrians are saying that Iraq's preoccupation with its internal affairs made it stop the unity negotiations?

[Answer] What the Syrian regime means by Iraq's internal preoccupations is the plot which that regime was behind.

[Question] Let us go back to the Steadfastness and Confrontation conference. Were you not invited to participate?

[Answer] We are not part of this Arab structure and we cannot be part of it. We had a preconception of its results: Lack of seriousness in confrontation. The Steadfastness and Confrontation resolutions recognized the Saharan Republic, supported Chad and raised other slogans, but the important thing is to implement them. What is more important than these slogans is that Syria should cancel its approval of Resolution 338 because implementation of this resolution involves approval of Resolution 242. This is important, but what is more important than all this is earnest work and how to employ our Arab capabilities in our fateful battle. No one has shown us any seriousness. Therefore, they do what they like and we do what we like. It is true that all of us are called Arab states and the Arab nation, but we define the dimensions of the conflict in a different way from the others. We believe that everyone wants to defend what it has and its own regime but not to offer what it has to the battle.

[Question] But Syria has declared the Golan front open to the battle.

[Answer] The Golan will not be open to the [Palestinian] resistance. Words are one thing and action is another.

[Question] What about the opening of the Jordanian front, which the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front has called for?

[Answer] The Arab nation is required to strengthen the confrontation states, including the Jordanian regime. No single Arab regime must be asked to bear

the responsibility of the battle. We say that the responsibility must not be thrown on the Syrian regime, the Jordanian regime or any other Arab regime. All of us together must shoulder the responsibility. Therefore, we must prepare all the battle requirements for every confrontation regime and the Palestinian revolution. The Arab nation must seriously contribute to the battle. No Arab country alone can confront the Zionist entity.

[Question] What is your opinion of the European initiative to solve the Palestinian issue--an initiative which occupied newspaper columns recently?

[Answer] The Arab nation must rely on building its intrinsic power. In our estimation, there is no initiative aimed at the welfare of the Arab nation and the interests of the Palestinian people. It is our conviction that the European plan is not outside the line of the Camp David agreement. The European initiative came to light only after the door to Camp David was closed. Now that Camp David is in a phase of suspension and has to be reactivated by any means, someone has to be found to reopen the door. Who? The choice fell on the European states which have begun to move through their initiative.

[Question] Therefore, the initiative is Camp David but in another form and thus useless?

[Answer] That is correct. It is complementary to Camp David. However, we must not forget that there is a change in European public opinion's attitude toward our cause. Why has this change in public opinion occurred? There are many forces which seek independence from the American policy. There are other forces which find their interest lies in cooperation with the Arab nation, on both the economic and oil levels. Therefore, there are attempts at liberation from American domination. There is also a yearning for independence and direct dealings between the European and Arab states. The American middleman used to get his share but he was in control of the European action. For this reason Europe has realized that it will not be able to promote its relations with the Arab nation unless it adopts a serious attitude toward our Pan-Arab cause, which we use as a basis for all our dealings with foreign countries. We therefore believe that the European states now want a solution to the Middle East problem. At this point we ask this question: Have the European states liberated themselves from American pressure? Or from American tutelage? The answer, of course, is no. Is Europe capable of putting forward a right solution that will serve our cause? The ideology of Europe (the Nine) does not advocate this, nor does America allow it complete dissent from America's will. I believe that there is American-European coordination in putting forward a new initiative. If we try to count initiatives, we will discover that scores are proposed to us every day. And on every initiative the Arabs are split into supporters and opponents, starting with the Rogers plan and ending with the European initiative. That is why we say that the Arab nation must build its intrinsic power and prepare for the battle of destiny.

[Question] It is being said that there is a dispute, rather tension, in the Iraq-Soviet relations?

[Answer] We and the Soviets are bound by a treaty of friendship and co-operation. In its provisions the treaty emphasizes the principle of equal relations and sovereignty of either party over its own territory. As I have said, the Soviet Union is our friend but it is natural for friendship with any state to be governed by our national and Pan-Arab interests. Soviet strategy might differ from our strategy because the Soviet Union has its own interests and we have our own interests. Our positions differ on the Palestinian issue and also on the Eritrean issue. We have already declared our position regarding the Soviets' entry into Afghanistan. Therefore, we believe that friendship means having our say on what we feel represents our national and Pan-Arab interests and expresses our principles. We can therefore affirm that the question has not reached the point of animosity and we hope that the Soviet forces will withdraw from Afghanistan.

[Question] Is there a glimmer of hope in this direction?

[Answer] The Soviet Union must withdraw from Afghanistan in order to give the Afghan people freedom to express themselves. This is a basic principle which we uphold.

[Question] Some people expect the establishment of good relations between you and America?

[Answer] Our political and diplomatic relations with America are cut off.

[Question] But economic relations are continuing?

[Answer] Our economic relations with America are very limited and do not go beyond the field of electronic equipment.

[Question] Is there an American threat to the gulf, in your opinion.

[Answer] The American danger exists in the area. America is reinforcing its imperialist presence in the area through its bases in the gulf and the facilities granted to it and also by America's continued misappropriation of our natural resources through the companies which exploit the oil resources and which are American despite being multinational. We must not also forget the Camp David agreement and the American military, political and economic support for the Zionist entity and the attempts to impose unfair American solutions on the Arab nation. Recently, America began to increase its military in the Arab nation. This is confirmed by the reinforcement of its fleet in the gulf area.

[Question] In what direction are your gulf relations going?

[Answer] It is of great interest to us that the gulf area remain uninvolved in international conflicts. We are prepared to throw our weight in the gulf against the Persian threat and in defense of the gulf's Arabism.

[Question] Is there an attempt to convene a gulf summit in the wake of the intense American military presence on the gulf borders?

[Answer] This idea has not been put forward. The gulf is Arab and it will remain Arab. Its problems should be discussed at Arab summit conferences.

[Question] Are there any signs of an Arab summit being convened?

[Answer] In keeping with our principles and through the working paper which we termed a "Pan-Arab action charter" we proposed the idea of convening an Arab summit. Many Arab states responded while others have not yet declared their stand.

[Question] What is the nature of your relations with the Saudi Arabian kingdom?

[Answer] They are similar to the relations between any Arab state and another. Despite the fact that our two social systems are different, we are in harmony within the framework of joint Arab action.

[Question] In view of the state of agitation we observe in the Middle East area, particularly in the gulf area, do you think that this will increase the state of tension in Lebanon and lead eventually to an explosion?

[Answer] The enemies of Lebanon and of the Arab nation are undoubtedly trying to trigger the Lebanese situation, let alone the private interests of some Arab states and the interests of the big states in Lebanon. If we realize that Camp David's second link is Lebanon, we can be aware of the seriousness of the situation in the Lebanese arena. We hope that the situation will not explode because the achievement of victory by any side in the Lebanese arena will not be victory and everybody will be a loser and there will be no winner or loser. An explosion is not in the Arab or Lebanese interest but in the interest of Camp David and in the service of Zionism.

[Question] Finally, what is there between you and the PLO?

[Answer] I can describe our relationship with the PLO as very good, rather excellent.

CSO: 4802

LONDON ARAB PAPER REPORTS PLANS OF THREE NOTABLE PALESTINIAN DEPORTEES

LD030733 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 2 Jun 80 p 1

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT special dispatch]

[Excerpts] London--The three deported Palestinian leaders, Halhul Major Muhammad Hasan Milhim, Hebron Mayor Rahd al-Qawasimah and Hebron District canonical law Judge Shaykh Rajab At-Tamimi, are continuing their international tour of European capitals to explain the circumstances of their deportation, to work for their return to their occupied homeland and to enlist more support for the Palestine cause.

The three leaders will hold a press conference at the international press center in London at 1100 today. They will also meet with a number of high-ranking official and popular British personalities, leaders of organizations concerned with human rights and senior officials at the British Foreign Office.

In a special interview with AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, the three leaders said that they will leave London for New York tomorrow evening to meet with UN Secretary General Dr Kurt Waldheim to follow up the UN Security Council resolution which provides for their return to their homeland. The Security Council had charged the secretary general with the task of personally following up the resolution and guaranteeing its implementation.

From New York the three leaders will go to Washington and then embark on an extensive tour of the United States to meet with American officials and civilians. Each one of them will separately visit a number of states before returning to the American capital where they will lead the mammoth procession which is being organized by the League of American Arabs and a number of American personalities in front of the White House on 15 June in support of the three leaders.

AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned that certain American and European circles are now considering the organization of two mammoth marches in which a large number of internationally renowned and peace-loving personalities will participate to insure the return of the deportees.

The first procession, led by the three leaders, will proceed from Amman to Allenby Bridge on the Jordan River; the second procession will simultaneously proceed from Jerusalem to the bridge on the west bank of the river. The two processions are likely to be held early July.

AE-SHARQ AL-AWSAT has learned from informed sources that the three leaders will visit Rome and the Vatican soon. They also plan to tour the Arab states now that they have received highest-level official invitations from a number of Arab countries to visit these countries.

CSO: 4802

KUWAITI PAPER DEcriES INEFFECTIVENESS OF ARAB RESOLUTIONS, ACTIONS

LD281551 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 23 May 80 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "Two Facets and Two Conferences"]

[Excerpts] While the conference of 31 foreign ministers of the Islamic states was drawing to a close and issuing its resolutions and recommendations, all of which are theoretical and will soon be forgotten even by those who signed them, just as they have forgotten and ignored many resolutions adopted earlier, another conference, opposed and contrary to the first, was being held by the western industrial states members of the World Energy Commission with the aim of bringing pressure to bear on the oil-producing countries so as to deny them their legitimate right to decide on a fair price for their crude oil products.

It is ironical that, while the two conferences were held in the same international conditions, the first was content with dealing with such important and crucial issues as the problem of Afghanistan, the situation in Jerusalem, and the interference by major powers in the gulf affairs, through the issuing of unbinding statements and setting up ineffectual followup committees while the second conference took practical steps by requesting the oil companies to bring pressure to bear on the oil-producing countries in general and the Arab ones in particular in order to resist new price increases, bearing in mind the major role these monopolist companies play in the oil market.

In fact these shortcomings in Arab political and diplomatic actions do not only concern the major issues in the international field but also concern Arab bilateral issues involving disputes and fighting.

Therefore, it is not surprising that our image in the world is shaken and that others deal with us from the standpoint that we are a weak and divided nation that does not know how to defend its just causes and inalienable rights despite the fact that it has the material and manpower resources that would enable it to become a respected and feared nation.

Why, indeed, are we so weak? Israel has coercively and illegally deported three Palestinian leaders while we were unable to do anything about it.

All that we did was to resort to the weakest method, to the Security Council which "urged" Israel to take them back.

During the campaign over dissident Soviet Jews Israel raised hell and got what it wanted. Israel is also having it way when it is attacking southern Lebanon, persecuting the innocent, and imprisoning the inhabitants of a whole town in their houses as it did in Ramallah and Hebron. Israel did not resort to Waldheim and his clique. It did what it usually does--takes action and commits aggression with total disregard for any reaction.

Therefore, it is not surprising that Israel, with the support of the world which is awed by its strength, should indulge in killing and terrorizing as long as the victims of such action and terror belong to the nation of the 100 million (Arabs), the nation with oil, money and strategic position, the nation that is bleeding but unable to tend its wound although it has all the means and potential that would enable it to do so.

CSO: 4802

TRIPOLI REPORTS RESULTS OF PALESTINIAN CONFERENCE

LD291504 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 29 May 80

[Text] The Arab Palestinian congress concluded the final session of its first meeting this year at the people's conference hall in Tripoli this morning. At the end of the session the recommendations and resolutions, adopted by the Palestinian basic popular conferences and drafted by the Palestinian general people's congress at its present session, were read.

In the final statement the congress emphasized the masses' faith in the people's Authority and in the era of the Jamahiriyah, which advocates the freedom of man and his final liberation from the remnants of injustice, oppression and dictatorship.

The statement stressed that the armed popular revolution was the only means of keeping the Palestinian revolution ablaze until all the territories of Palestine--from the river to the sea--are liberated.

The Palestinian general people's congress has set up the congress's secretariat and approved its internal regulations. At their basic popular conferences the Palestinian masses (?recommended) the escalation of the Palestinian revolution (?at the level of the masses), spreading the Palestinian popular revolutionary action outside the socialist people's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and total cohesion with the forces of the revolution in every part of the Arab homeland and with all the world revolutionary forces who are working to uphold the causes of freedom and justice.

They also stressed the need for preaching the Third World theory and for standing firmly in support of freedom for the Arab. They also recommended supporting the Palestinian Arabs inside the occupied territory by consolidating their steadfastness against the occupying enemy. They approved the opening of the borders around the enemy, since they are considered the correct entry point leading to the liberation of Palestine, and stated that the armed Palestinian popular revolution should work for the realization of this goal by every means and by every method.

They also recommended the concentration and organization of all the forces of the Palestinian people everywhere in preparation for the outbreak of the armed popular revolution for the liberation of Palestine.

The conferences also affirmed the need for giving general military training to all people capable of carrying arms along the same lines as was used in Libya in preparation for the establishment of the armed people.

They recommended opening the door to Arab and Muslim volunteers in preparation for the battle and for the realization of victory.

In the field of revolutionary information, the Palestinian masses pointed to the need for transforming information into a revolutionary and popular force that stems from the spirit of the popular experience. It must project the Palestinians' popular heritage, lest it be forgotten, and so that it may become an established cultural challenge to the enemy. The Palestinian masses also recommended the dissolution of the Palestinian leagues and unions in the Jamahiriyah, considering the duties of all these leagues and unions as lying within the basic popular conferences; banning the political activities of the Palestinians in Libya, except through the basic popular conferences; and working to organize revolutionary formations for Palestinian women.

CSO: 4802

PRICE OF GAS SHOULD BE LINKED WITH THAT OF PETROLEUM

Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 13 Apr 80 p 7

[Text] In the editorial of its last number, the magazine PETROLE ET GAZ ARABES declares that only an alignment of the price of gas on the price of petroleum can contribute to clarifying world energy perspectives.

Thus its director, Nicolas Sarkis writes:

"The large increases in petroleum prices since the beginning of 1979 have considerably aggravated the disparities that existed between the prices of petroleum and those of natural gas and have made a general revision of prices for the export of natural gas inevitable in order to adapt them to the new realities of the world energy market.

"The first of these realities is that gas can no longer be considered as a marginal source of energy since it already provides not less than 28 percent of the total consumption of energy in the United States and 17 percent in Western Europe and that, taking into account the enormity of the reserves not yet exploited, from now on it is present as the principal product capable of insuring the transition from petroleum to the new sources of energy.

"The second reality is that the maintenance of gas prices at a ridiculously low level has for several years put a brake on research and production investments as well as on the development of the world trade in natural gas. It is thus that the production of gas in the United States (nearly 40 percent of world production) has been declining since 1971, which led the Carter Administration to adopt measures to free and raise the prices of American gas.

"On the international market, the low level of gas prices obliged several countries, specifically including Holland, Iran and Algeria, to cancel or table since the several exploration projects. The same observation applies to associated gas of which not less than 200 billion cubic meters continue to be burned each year as a pure loss to the world, for the simple reason that the prices are still too low to make profitable the investments required for collecting, liquifying and transporting the gas.

"A third reality to be emphasized is that after having been a substitute for heavy fuel oil, gas is more and more replacing the medium distillates for energy or petrochemical uses in industrialized countries and for that reason is now demanding higher prices.

"Also, the general tendency manifested for some time in the exporting countries aims at aligning gas prices with those of competing petroleum prices, which implies a revision not only of the basic prices of the old contracts, but also some indexing clauses initially anticipated for a periodical adjustment of the base prices.

"Japan was the first industrialized country to try out this realism by accepting as of 1978 a price connection between its purchases of LGN [Liquified Natural Gas] from Indonesia with the price of crude petroleum. That principle was extended afterward to contracts concluded by Japan with Brunei, Malaysia and Abu Dhabi. For what is very particularly a concern of this last-named country, the price of the LGN delivered in Japan has been indexed since 1 January 1980 to the price of 39-degree API crude oil from Mourban, which raised the price from \$2 per million BTU when the deliveries began in 1977 to \$5.39 per million BTU on 1 January of this year (...).

"According to 2 studies recently established by Phillips Petroleum and the London Petroleum Institute the new price of about \$30 a barrel for crude oil henceforth justifies prices oscillating around \$6 per million BTU for the exports of LGN from the Middle East and Africa, which are the 2 principal regions which between them can cover at approximately \$6 per million BTU the considerable import needs of the industrialized countries."

12116
CSO: 4800

BRIEFS

YAR MINISTER ON SECURITY, U.S., USSR--Sharjah, 1 June--YAR Information Minister Yahya al-'Arashi has asserted that his country is determined to maintain the security and stability of the gulf and the Red Sea and to keep these two regions outside the international power struggle. He also asserted that his country's relations with the countries in the region aim at serving the stability of the region and the development of its peoples. In a statement to the Sharjah paper AL-KHALIJ published today, the Yemeni minister denied the existence of any differences between his country and the United States or the Soviet Union. He said that his country obtains arms from any source, in conformity with its policy of diversifying the sources of arms. Therefore, he added, there is no reason for others to question our bringing in U.S. or Soviet expertise, because the purpose of this expertise is to improve Yemeni capability. Furthermore, its presence in Yemen is only for short periods. The Yemeni minister also denied reports that his country has asked to join the front of steadfastness and confrontation, saying that his country always stresses the need for Arab solidarity. [Text] [JN010840 Doha QNA in Arabic 0740 GMT 1 Jun 80]

EGYPT ON SAUDI PEACE STAND--Cairo, 27 May--In today's editorial, the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH welcomes the new Saudi stand regarding the peace process in the Middle East. This stand was announced by Prince Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Saudi crown prince, in the WASHINGTON POST. The paper says that it welcomes the Saudi stand because it agrees with Egypt's strategic stance--which has not changed with regard to the Arab-Israeli conflict--and demands the same thing as Egypt; namely, the Israeli withdrawal from all the territory occupied in 1967. The paper adds that it also welcomes the Saudi stand because it reflects an attempt to restore Arab solidarity, which was shattered by the events in the past 2 years. The paper says that if political observers note that the Saudi rulers are extending their hand through Prince Fahd's statements to sisterly Egypt, we, on our part, will also extend our hand to them in amity and fraternity. [Text] [NC270838 Cairo QNA in Arabic 0635 GMT 27 May 80]

GULF COMPANY AGREEMENT--Manama, 29 May--An agreement was signed here today on founding the Gulf Company for the manufacture of petrochemicals, with a capital of 60 million Bahraini dinars. The agreement was signed by

Bahraini Development and Industry Minister Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, Kuwaiti Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Kahlifah al-Sabah and Saudi Industry and Electricity Minister Dr Ghazi 'Abd al-Rahman al-Qusaybi. The agreement stipulates that the petrochemicals complex will begin with two factories: One for producing methanol, with a capacity of 1,000 metric tons daily; and the other for the production of ammonia, also with a capacity of 1,000 metric tons daily. [Excerpt] [JN291026 Manama Gulf News Agency in Arabic 0850 GMT 29 May 80]

OPEC GAS PRODUCERS MEET--Abu Dhabi, 28 May--The second conference of OPEC gas-producing countries ended its meetings in Abu Dhabi this evening. A responsible source stated on behalf of the conference that the conferees unanimously agreed to make the prices of natural and liquified gas equal to the prices of crude oil, which is in accordance with the resolutions of the OPEC Ministerial Council, which recently met in At-Ta'if, and the report submitted by the organization's economic committee, which ended its meetings in Vienna last week. The source added that the conferees also discussed the policy of uniting the nature of the contracts which will be signed in the future between the gas-producing and consuming states. The same source pointed out that the delegations participating in the conference also discussed ways to implement open dialogue between the OPEC gas-producing states and those gas-producing states which are not OPEC members for the purpose of coordinating and consulting on the possibility of finding a unified price for gas reaching an actual value for gas. [Excerpt] [JN282001 Abu Dhabi Emirates News Agency in Arabic 1850 GMT 28 May 80]

NO ANTI-SYRIAN GROUPS IN JORDAN--Kuwait, 29 May--Jordanian Prime Minister al-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf has reaffirmed Jordan's denial of reports that anti-Syrian groups are being trained in Jordan. He added: We will stamp out anything of the sort, if and when we find they exist. The Kuwaiti magazine AL-NAHDAH today quotes the Jordanian prime minister as saying that his country will never join the Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. Camp David accords, because they have splintered Arab solidarity. Jordan will not submit to any pressure, he added. He said that King Husayn will visit the Soviet Union in response to an official invitation. King Husayn will discuss bilateral relations and Arab and international developments with the Soviet officials. The Jordanian prime minister praised Moscow's stand on the Arab issues, adding that this stand is in support of the Pan-Arab effort to end the Israeli occupation of Arab land. [Text] [JN290924 Manama Gulf News Agency in Arabic 0915 GMT 29 May 80]

SAUDI-EGYPTIAN RECONCILIATION--The way for renewed reconciliation between Egypt and Saudi Arabia was reached through secret contacts. This was stated by an Egyptian source to the YEDI'OT AHARONOT correspondent. The source said Prince Fahd's declarations in Riyadh that "Egypt had done everything to promote peace" was not a vague declaration but was the result of these mentioned secret contacts. [Passage omitted on Fahd's interview to the WASHINGTON POST] President al-Sadat has recently sent a personal emissary for talks with the Saudi royal family. Upon his return to Egypt, the

omissary hinted at a trend on Saudi Arabia's part to change its attitude toward Egypt. The rapprochement between Egypt and Saudi Arabia has given rise to a wave of enthusiasm in Egypt. It has also created the feeling that the political isolation imposed on Cairo in the Arab world in the wake of the signing of the peace treaty with Israel is gradually being lifted. The Egyptian source confirmed that in the secret contacts between Egypt and Saudi Arabia it was decided to open a new era in their mutual relationship and to increase the political and strategic coordination between the two countries. The background for this rapprochement is the increasing fear in Saudi Arabia of the strengthening of Soviet subversion and Egypt's disappointment about the failure of the autonomy negotiations. It is assessed in Israel that the latest firm Egyptian declarations regarding the future of Jerusalem were designed to further tighten the renewed relations between Cairo and Riyadh. [Ilan Kfir] [Excerpts] [TA271300 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 27 May 80 p 2]

JORDAN, PLO DISAGREEMENT--The dispute between Jordan and the PLO as to the allocation of funds for Judea and Samaria has been resumed in Amman. Our correspondent says Jordan has learned that the PLO was channeling money to central figures in Judea and Samaria, including mayors, without Jordan's knowledge. Some of these funds have been frozen after having been deposited in European and Amman banks. [Text] [TA270549 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 27 May 80]

SAUDI DELEGATION LEAVES ALGIERS--Deputy Saudi prime minister and Crown Prince Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz left Algiers this afternoon at the end of a brief visit, during which he held talks with Chedli Bendjedid, president of the republic and party secretary general. Prince Fahd arrived in Algeria on Thursday afternoon, accompanied by Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and the emir of Riyadh region, Prince Sultan. Yesterday evening, Prince Fahd held expanded talks with Algerian officials, dealing in particular with bolstering relations between Algeria and Saudi Arabia and with matters of interest to the Arab nation. [Names of those seeing him off at the airport omitted] [Excerpt] [LD301950 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 30 May 80]

CSO: 4402

AFGHANISTAN

QUARTER MILLION TROOPS NEEDED TO SUBDUCE AFGHANS

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 12 May 80 pp 148-150

[Report by Erich Wiedemann]

[Text] "It is written right in here," Babrak Karmal cries, piously waving a leather-bound copy of the Koran. "The aims of our revolution are the same as the aims of socialism. Allah is great."

But there is only scant applause--and no wonder. It always takes a whole company of Russian atheists to permit Karmal, the pious communist, to come out and declare his faith in Allah and the Prophet.

Ever since the Soviet occupation authorities heaved him onto the Kabul throne as chief of state, Babrak Karmal has been trying to effect a historic compromise between Islam and Communism. But he has not made much headway.

The vast majority of Afghans still consider him a Kremlin stooge, however often he starts his speeches to the people by invoking the name of Allah and the saints. And the occupiers are beginning to consider him a weak sister who will have to be replaced by a more stalwart Marxist at the proper time.

They also reacted sourly to his permitting the West Germans to bring nine teachers into the country and thus thwart the takeover of the German School by the GDR.

Karmal indefatigably keeps to his soft line. One visible sign for it is the official flag which was recently unveiled. Instead of the red flag hoisted until recently a black-red-and green flag now flies from the Presidential Palace: green for Allah and red for socialism.

The colors are all right as they go. But when young pioneers recently unfurled their new banner with the new emblem on it, the invited guests from the socialist camp had a surprised look on their faces. The emblem, as it turned out, bore a striking resemblance to that of the neighboring Soviet republic of Tadzhikistan.

But it seems that Karmal is serious about relaxing internal tensions. He is plainly making an effort to dismantle the regime of the bloodthirsty commissars instituted by his predecessor Amin to the extent permitted by the Russians.

He has fired hundreds of corrupt officials and police torturers and has released thousands of political prisoners. Under Amin's regime the pick-up squads would haul off 500 suspects or so to the Pul-i-Sharki jail on a good night. Now, they are a good deal more selective.

A man can no longer be arrested for having a "night letter" stuck to his door by an informer claiming that he gives "his dog human flesh" to eat or that "Aslam Dzafari, the ropemaker, is an enemy of the people." Whole sections of the Pul-i-Sharki jail now stand empty, it is said.

Word is that Karmal intends to liberalize his regime gradually to win the population over and, in time, to be able to do without the protection of his patrons.

But many Afghans consider this to be an illusion. "Amin may have been a tyrant," one Afghan says, "but at least he was one of us. Karmal is a watchdog for the Russians, who ought to be drowned."

Individual freedom has never meant as much to the Afghans as the collective dignity of the clan or the nation. It hardly seems likely therefore that the Afghans can be pacified by liberal concessions.

As to the willingness of the "Mojaheddin" of the mountain guerillas to make peace, the German moving firm owner Wolfgang Hartge who was held prisoner by them for a week in February has this to say: "There are only two things they know how to do: to pray and to hate."

They would not dream of entering into a dialogue with infidels and that does not apply to the Russians alone. On the outsized skewers painted on the walls and the sides of houses during the night Russians as well as Yankees and Britishers are impaled--foreign devils all.

Karmal's liberalization does not go very far as one could plainly see when girl students of Habibia secondary school staged a protest march on the Shar-e-Nu in the center of Kabul. They ran into the "Chalkis," radical party teenagers who prefer to do their bit for socialism with an automatic rifle in their hand.

Practically none of the demonstrators was over 16. A few carried signs saying "Death to the Russians" and "Chase the Bear Across the Amu-Darja" (the river dividing Afghanistan and the Soviet Union).

Right beside the Lufthansa office the demonstrators were met by a cordon of teenage Chalkis with Kalashnikov rifles lowered. The leader of the group shouted to the girls to stop or he would give the order to shoot. But the girls kept on marching.

Just before reaching the riflemen, the first row of girls tore the black silk shadris off their heads and threw them at the Chalkis. "You cowards," one of the girls cried, "you are not worthy of wearing men's clothing. Why don't you put on our shadris instead!"

It was plain to see that the young revolutionaries were confused. They had obviously not been told by anyone how to cope with 1,500 girl demonstrators. Thank God there were a few veterans around who had learned what to do in a delicate situation of this sort. They fired one volley into the air and then another into the crowd.

The example they set gave the young men courage. They, too, showed no mercy now. A total of 51 of the girls were killed on the spot and several hundred were arrested.

If the opposition fires back, the Chalkis let the glorious Soviet army take care of the situation. The occupiers' downright ridiculous superiority in material manages to maintain a semblance of socialist order even though as many as nine-tenths of the population are probably against it.

Western observers are given to drawing malicious comparisons to the involvement of American military might in Vietnam.

Diplomats are fond of telling about a large-scale attack by the Russians on a small mountain fort along the road to Herat. First, six MiG-24 helicopter gunships fired rockets at the ancient walls of the fort and then the heavy artillery moved up. After a bombardment lasting two or three hours, an engineer unit took the fort by storm. It was deserted. "Just like way back when at Bien Hoa," a Bonn diplomat who had served in Vietnam said.

"They hardly even dare climb out of their tanks," the Afghans will scoff. "They are just as cowardly as the Hindus." It must be understood that the Hindus range just barely above women and camels on the patriotic Afghan's scale of values.

But the occupiers are not only inferior in fighting spirit to the Afghans. Although the garrison command has put a ban on trading with the natives, Soviet soldiers are seen in the bazaars time and again exchanging leather belts, cutlery and sometimes even weapons for hashish and opium.

But since, they do not know any better, they have on occasion been fooled by clever Afghan boys who palmed off confectioner's sugar or wheat flour on them in place of opium.

Maybe that is merely poetic justice considering the ten tons of petrified Soviet tooth paste for which Afghanistan was made to pay in Western currency although it could just barely be used as an additive for cement.

Red Army soldiers seem to consider Western reporters almost as dangerous as Afghan guerillas. When the reporter approaches some Russians unloading musical instruments in front of the Pamir Cinema their squad leader waves his arms frantically and tells him to go away.

"Now they are using trumpets to shoot with," a passerby jokes. The occupiers waste no time getting back on their truck and speeding away before the class enemy gets any closer. Journalists are welcome provided they represent friendly, which is to say Eastern, countries. Western journalists must pose as teachers or salesmen to get inside the country.

Military experts conclude that it would take 250,000 soldiers to pacify Afghanistan. But the experts also believed that a quarter million Americans would be able to take care of the communists in Vietnam. And it did not work out that way at all.

For all that, the Russians have drawn a ring of 30,000 men around now and have dropped whatever reticence they showed initially. The runways and parking areas at Kabul airport are so jammed with military aircraft, army tents and heavy equipment that an Indian Airlines pilot recently refused to ready his plane for takeoff. He feared for the safety of the airplane and its passengers.

Since the artillery does not seem to be enough of a deterrent, Moscow's general staff officers brought surface-to-surface missiles into position in the mountains surrounding the Kabul basin in the aftermath of the bloody street battles in February.

Although the Russians cannot be overlooked otherwise, they have faded somewhat from the Kabul social scene. For fear of the consequences of all too obvious solidarity to the alliance, even East bloc diplomats prefer not to be seen in public with their Soviet counterparts.

The occupiers are no longer permitted to enter the German Club. "They would come here on a Saturday morning bag and baggage with an armful of vodka bottles and stagger out stone-drunk by evening," a club member said. "But not any more. After all, there is no reason for us to function as the Red Army's Strength through Joy."

9478
CSO: 4403

REPORTAGE ON DEMONSTRATIONS, FIGHTING, ARRESTS

Schoolchildren Oppose Intervention

TA231632 London BBC World Service in English 1600 GMT 23 May 80

[From "News"]

[Text] Reports reaching Delhi say there have been renewed clashes this week between schoolchildren, mainly girls, and Soviet troops in the Afghan capital, Kabul. Troops and party workers loyal to President Babrak Karmal are said to have opened fire after the children, some of them apparently armed, took to the streets in protest at the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. One report says at least five schoolgirls were killed on Tuesday. The clashes are reported to have continued on Wednesday and Thursday and up to 20 girls are said to have been injured. Four weeks ago, at least 60 people were killed, most of them schoolgirls, when Soviet troops and party workers opened fire on demonstrators. Other reports reaching Delhi say a large military fuel and ammunition depot outside Kabul was blown up by rebels on Tuesday night. The French news agency quotes reports that at least eight guards, five of them Russians, were killed in the explosion.

Travelers Report Protests, Clashes

CN231959 Paris AFP in English 1951 GMT 23 May 80

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, May 23 (AFP)--Shots were heard in Kabul today as massive anti-Russian student protests in the Afghan capital entered their fourth day, travellers reaching here told AFP.

The reports came as a rebel group said thousands of refugees had reached the Pakistani border following a massive Soviet attack on Darrah Pech on Afghanistan's Nangarhar Province in which "hundreds of innocent women and children" were killed and napalm bombs used.

In Kabul, a "tense calm" reported following a fresh wave of student-police clashes ended as anti-Russian students backed by the civil population took to the streets again in groups today, the travellers said.

The students were protesting against yesterday's Afghan Army action on teenage girls of Malala and Sooriya schools in which at least six girls were killed and over a dozen received bullet wounds.

Afghan girls had "taken the lead" over the past three days in the demonstrations against the Soviet military presence, one Kabul businessman who preferred anonymity said.

The capital was heavily guarded by combat troops and Soviet soldiers were seen rushing in convoys to unknown places, the travellers said.

Meanwhile thousands of refugees reached the Pakistani border town of Bajaur today following the massive Soviet attack on Darrah Pec in Afghanistan's Nangarhar Province, the rebel Islamic Alliance for the Liberation of Afghanistan said.

The Soviet troops, after successive guerrilla raids on their positions by Moslem Mojahedin (volunteers), heavily bombed the area killing "hundreds of innocent women and children", the rebel organisation said.

The Soviet soldiers used napalm bombs in the attack which set fire to about 200 houses in several villages in the area, the alliance quoting refugee said.

The Russians in the operation used a new type of helicopter, smaller than the MI-24, which is equipped with sophisticated weapons useful in guerrilla wars, the refugees said.

The helicopters, capable of low flights, dropped hundreds of Russian soldiers before the operation, the refugees told the Afghan rebel group.

Darrah Pec is a strategic pass in Nangarhar Province which leads to important Afghan provinces like Badakhshan, Laghman and Kabul itself.

Afghan rebel sources said the demonstrations were meanwhile also held today in Jalalabad and all shops and bazars were closed in the second biggest Afghan city.

Jalalabad University was closed following student-police clashes late last month and school students including girls were boycotting their classes.

The alliance said the Afghan Army was searching houses in Jalalabad and hundreds of youths had been arrested in connection with anti-Soviet demonstrations.

Student unrest was also reported from other parts of Afghanistan against the police action, they said.

Student Protests in Kabul

0W242024 Paris AFP in English 2013 GMT 24 May 80

[Article by Sami Zuberi]

[Text] Islamabad, Pakistan, May 24 (AFP)--Students angered by the killing of "a large number" of young demonstrators by Afghan and Soviet troops Wednesday and Thursday staged protests in the streets of Kabul again today, rebel sources reported.

The Hezb-e Islami group also said Moslem guerrillas had attacked the Pol-e Charkhi jail in central Kabul Thursday, killing one official and six Afghan soldiers.

The attack followed rumors that several hundred student prisoners were going to be transferred to Siberia, the rebels said.

Today in Kabul, the students assembled in front of Kabul University shouted slogans denouncing the "ruthless attack" by the soldiers, according to Hezb-e Islami.

The group said girls as well as boys were killed in the clashes earlier this week. "But Afghan students are determined to continue their struggle against communist aggression," it said.

According to Hezb'e Islami, Moslem rebels also attacked a military convoy in Tangi, 15 kms (10 miles) from the capital, killing eight soldiers--three of them Soviet--and destroying three trucks.

Guerrillas reportedly repulsed an attack by Soviet troops in Maqur, Ghazni Province, after three days of heavy fighting in which 170 Soviet tanks supported by 13 gunship helicopters had shelled them.

Eight tanks and one helicopter were destroyed, the rebels said.

Hezb'e Islami charged the Soviet troops with using poison gas which killed more than 50 people, including eight Moslem guerrillas.

Other reports from Darrah Pech said severe fighting was continuing there, with "non-European soldiers" using Czechoslovak weapons fighting alongside Soviet troops.

There were said to be suspicions that black soldiers from Ethiopia or Yemen had joined the Soviet forces.

Heavy fighting was reported also in Zabol Province, and rebel reports said that a surprise raid on a Soviet convoy last week had taken the lives of "several hundred" Afghan and Soviet soldiers.

Kabul Demonstrations, Arrests, Deaths

TA261613 London BBC World Service in English 1500 GMT 26 May 80

[From newscast]

[Text] Travellers arriving in Delhi from the Afghan capital, Kabul, have confirmed reports that the Soviet-dominated authorities there are arresting school-children, following last week's renewed anti-Soviet demonstrations. With the details here is Mark Tully from Delhi:

[Begin recording] Travellers arriving from Kabul normally choose to remain anonymous. They say their business interests and families will suffer if their names are broadcast. A British businessman who was among those who wanted to be anonymous, told me of an incident in which a school boy from a poor family was taken away from his home by militia. The militia appeared to be party workers supporting President Babrak Karmal's faction of the Communist Party.

An Afghan university teacher said that since Saturday the militia had been conducting house to house searches and arresting school-children and students indiscriminantly. She claims that she has seen the dead bodies of students of her own college being brought home. Some bore the marks of bullet wounds and some appeared to have been beaten or tortured. A French businesswoman told of an incident in Kabul's main bazaar last Wednesday. It was after dark apparently, when she heard the fire of automatic weapons. She ran for cover from where she saw an ambulance carrying Russians away. She couldn't tell whether they were dead. Shopkeepers told the French businesswoman that students had shot the Russians. She said that she had also seen the militia using electrified prods to control crowds. The French businesswoman described the prods as cattle prods and said they caused terrible pain.

An Afghan refugee in Delhi has shown me a letter from a friend in Kabul, who described the attitude of her young daughter. She wrote: When I tried to stop my daughter taking part in the demonstrations, she pulled her hair and started screaming. As soon as she finds the first opportunity she dashes to the streets and demonstrates, seeing her colleagues falling around her with her own eyes. [End recording]

CSO: 4920

AFGHAN MUJAHIDEEN AGAINST PROPOSED NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT

BK201438 Hong Kong AFP in English 1419 GMT 20 May 80

[Text] Islamabad, 20 May (AFP)--Afghan resistance groups today turned down the proposal of forming an Islamic foreign ministers committee to seek a negotiated settlement of the Afghan crisis.

The rebels' spokesman, Abdul Rasul Sawaif [name as received], who was heard by the political committee of the Islamic foreign ministers conference this morning as the joint representative of all the rebel groups fighting in Afghanistan, told a press conference here that the "only solution for us lies in waging jihad (holy war) against the communist Kabul regime".

He said the "Mujahideen (freedom fighters) will never negotiate with the puppet regime in Afghanistan which has no representative character".

Mr. Sawaif was "disappointed" over the attitude of the conference and "deeply regretted that the Islamic foreign ministers did not achieve what we expected from them".

According to conference sources, four members of the Arab Steadfastness Front (Libya, North Yemen, Syria and the Palestine Liberation Organisation) expressed reservations on the legitimacy of the resistance groups attending the conference as members of the Iranian delegation.

He, however, said that views of the four [were] "immaterial against the voice of forty" Islamic states.

The Afghan resistance leader, who demanded that the Islamic conference call for severance of diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union and an economic boycott of Moscow until all Russian troops withdrew from Afghanistan, asked the Muslim countries to back their "just struggle".

"We started our movement empty handed but within two years struggle we succeeded in getting control of 80 percent of our lands" and the government of Babrak Karmal controlled only "capital cities", he said.

More than 200,000 people have so far sacrificed their lives during the past two years and thousands have been imprisoned by the successive communist regimes while hundreds of villages have been razed to the ground by Soviet troops, the Afghan leader said.

SOVIET SUPPORT FOR DETENTE UPHELD

Kabul ANIS in Dari 16 Apr 80 pp 2, 3

/Article by Firuzkuh: "Who Is Perverting Detente?"/

/Text/ Mankind has a very pressing need for peace, so that, in the light of that great common phenomenon, it can defend the gains of man's unflagging activities, which have been created throughout the centuries by his creative activities, which have been created throughout the centuries by his creative toils, and bequeaths a climate filled with vital calm to coming generations.

However, there are also forces which, in the face of this great human aim, either on the national scene or on the international scene, have hopes of creating obstacles so that, through their destructive activities, they can cause the growth and consolidation of detente among nations to face failure. Before casting a glance at the results of the activities of the countries oriented toward detente, or full orientation toward detente, it must be made clear who the entities opposed to and inimical toward detente are.

After British imperialism had been driven out of the Asian and African countries, the rug of imperialism was not rolled up in its entirety--rather, imperialism's place was taken by its heir the United States of America, which began its colonialist activities in Britain's place. This neo-colonialist managed to engage in its own onslaught against countries by making use of the experiences of colonial Britain.

The United States developed new methods of colonialism. It set foot toward Europe and Africa from the Western Hemisphere, entrapped developing countries in the snare of poverty and misery and drew half-advanced countries which had stronger economic systems into the trap of the NATO, SEATO and CENTO military pacts, creating an unholy front against peace-loving nations.

The lack of friendship with peace-loving socialist countries, intervention in the domestic affairs of countries, defense of the regimes of reactionary countries, strengthening of the forces opposed to freedom and democracy in the presence of destructive and reactionary forces, support for Zionism

and apartheid, disrespect for the self-determination of nations and the recognition of their rights up to the borders of the free countries, enmity toward revolutionary peoples, blows against the goals of revolutionary regimes, expansion of espionage systems in their close and faithful relationship to the CIA and the Pentagon, the sending of destructive and terrifying weapons to reactionary bands in collusion with the expansionist circles of Peking--all in connection with the reaction in the region and world reaction, whose commanders are the rulers of America--are large signs of their total enmity toward and perversion of detente.

What goal do they have in perverting detente? It is clear that detente is the guarantor of freedom and democracy and the assurance of a peaceful existence among nations, not the guardian of the interests of the imperialist countries headed by the United States of America.

If there is no war among nations, if there are no reactionary regimes, if there are no imperialistic military alliances, then who will buy their murderous products, where and under what pretext will they be used, and how will they be used?

For those who are the enemies of detente, it makes no difference where they send noble and toiling people, workers, peasants and so forth to their destruction with their weapons. They use thousands of excuses to find ways to use and sell their weapons. They embrace fascist regimes with all their bloody claws and shamelessly defend their acts of tyranny, without realizing that the thrones and crowns of these men are stained with the blood of the masses and that their bases are established upon terror and murder. Were there no fascist chains and prisons, from Tel Aviv and Cairo to Chile and other countries dependent on imperialism, all these fascist regimes' foundations would be overturned in a day and there would be no need for a lengthy struggle by the masses. These chains, prisons and terrors would no longer be able to prevent the victory of revolutionary movements.

It was imperialism which considered that the Bandung Conference was "inhuman" in nature, but it did not realize that the political, social and economic events of the world have not and do not always follow imperialist interests. Today this nonaligned movement is enlarging its all-embracing, moral character.

Efforts with reactionary countries to form treaties against peace with Peking have been established as old, recognized weapons and never will work. As they say, "the well-digger is in the well himself." The expenditure of enormous sums of money and destructive weapons cannot be a barrier to the freedom of nations or to growth and detente. Not only will it not prevent those--indeed, it will draw nations into alliance and solidarity against imperialism.

The peaceloving countries, and those which have always been on the side of detente and the policy of eliminating turmoil, are the defenders of detente without reservation or restriction. The socialist countries, and the other peaceloving, nonaligned countries alongside them, are bearing this mission on their shoulders. They are always ready to resolve and judge world problems through right, justice, and peaceful means, to apply the Salt Two agreement at the earliest opportunity, to hold a disarmament conference as soon as possible, and to reach a complete agreement which will entail beneficial results for mankind, to have the freedom of countries officially recognized, to have revolutionary movements defended, and to have intervention in the domestic affairs of others prevented.

Today this mission has reached its triumphant stage, its shining brightness has risen over the continents, and it has drawn the masses in its train; revolutionary thinking is reaching its peak among the masses and the movement toward detente is expanding among nations with every day. The revolutionary movements are attaining victory.

The road toward the growth and consolidation of detente among the nations is becoming smoother and, when a nation joins the group of advanced, revolutionary countries, this means that one more defender of detente and the elimination of turmoil in the world is being added and one more partisan of world peace is being acquired.

Our era is to be considered the era of the triumph of revolutionary forces. It is the era of the awakening of nations, which are overthrowing the system of colonialism and imperialism. No longer will imperialism have the power to defend itself, and this in itself conveys the fact that the revolutionary objective of defending detente is proper and successful.

11887

CSO: 4903

SOVIET AID TO NATION EXTOLLED

Kabul ANIS in Dari 15 Apr 80 pp 4, 5

/Article: "The Soviet Union's Friendly Aid to Our Country"/

/Text/ The friendship between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union is so firm, deep and permanent, and has emerged so triumphant from the crucible of the test of time, that it is now considered a good tradition and a symbol of brotherhood among the peoples of both countries. From the first days the young nation of the soviets was created as a source of enthusiasm in Russia through the triumph of the great October socialist revolution, and the carpet of imperialism was rolled up in Afghanistan as a result of the uprising of our people against British imperialism, the peoples of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union extended the hand of brotherhood and friendship to one another, so that, with the triumph of the victorious April revolution, these relations of affection and brotherhood might enter a wholly new stage and become further consolidated on behalf of our people and peace in the region and the world.

On every occasion that the forces of imperialism and reaction have formed ranks against our country and against our people in order to consummate their evil, filthy designs and intentions, the Soviet Union, in accordance with the pursuit of its entirely peace-loving platform, has, on the basis of respect for the will of peoples and the right of self-determination, placed immaculate assistance at the disposal of our people, and a clear example of this is this country's broad fraternal aid to revolutionary Afghanistan following the triumph of the glorious April revolution.

The inauguration of the joint exhibition of works by Afghan and Russian artists and the laying of the cornerstone for the friendship park of the Democratic Organization of Youths of Afghanistan and the Soviet Union Komsovol, which we have recently witnessed, all bear testimony to the fact that friendly relations, good neighborliness and cooperation among our peoples and countries are becoming stronger and more enduring with each passing day.

The glorious April revolution, which put an end to selfishness and acts of injustice and transferred political power to the people, so that they themselves could determine and decide the course of the development and progress of their beloved nation, has caused the satanic forces of reaction, with the cooperation of world imperialism, headed by American imperialism, to stand uneasily before the enormous and constantly increasing victories of our people and to consider their unjust and oppressive interests to be in danger; therefore, they have gathered everyone under the black, shadowy umbrella of archcriminal imperialism and have embarked on shameless conspiracies to a point where these past few days the people of Afghanistan and people throughout the world have even seen poisonous chemical bombs made in the United States of America, which had been sent to groups of saboteurs, killing innocent people, including children, women and old people and thus leave not the slightest doubt or room for denial that America, that archcriminal monster, is renouncing its shameless intervention in the domestic affairs of an independent, peace loving, freedom-loving country which is a serious, obdurate partisan of peace and tranquility in the region and the world.

At a time when American imperialism, Chinese self-aggrandizement and regional reaction are engaged in conspiring against our revolution and our people, and are even engaged in direct intervention, the friendly and fraternal country, the Soviet Union, is making every form of aid and assistance to the people of Afghanistan in order to advance and perfect development projects and improve the living condition of our people. In addition to the millions of rubles which it has given and is giving in aid to Afghanistan to finance our development plans, the Soviet Union signed an agreement for 100 million rubles in free aid in the realm of consumer goods and products a short time ago, and 70 percent of this aid is to enter Afghanistan in April and May and be placed at the disposal of consumers.

This great, fraternal aid is being received with gratitude by our people and it is certain that when it comes into the country and is supplied to the needy it will perform an important role in stabilizing the prices of foods and as a consequence in improving the living conditions of the great majority of our people. The people of Afghanistan are not only carrying out the great mission of building and developing their beloved country, with the aid of their true, sincere friends--they will also be giving a decisive, shattering response to imperialistic and reactionary forces which want to interfere in the domestic affairs of our nation. Although the lowly colonialist powers have ranged forces against the free people of Afghanistan, it must be pointed out that the forces supporting peace, freedom, progress and democracy throughout the world are standing alongside our people.

LENIN PRAISED ON BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY

Kabul ANIS in Dari 22 Apr 80 p 4

/Article: "Anniversary of the Birth of the Founder of the First Workers' Government in the World"/

/Text/ Today, 22 April, coincides with the 110th anniversary of the birth of Lenin, the leader of the workers of the world. On this day, millions of people in various areas of the firmament celebrate the anniversary of the birth of this great historic figure with sincerity and a feeling of deep respect for him. Lenin was the great friend of toiling people throughout the world and the leader of the great October socialist revolution. It was he who through the establishment of the first workers' government in the world brought the long-standing, lofty ideals of toilers and sufferers into actuality.

The thoughts and the agendas of Lenin have not only been well used in the Soviet Union--the great, expansive nation of the soviets--they are also being used and followed in all continents by all lovers of freedom, by patriots and by people who are interested in peace, democracy, equality and the social welfare of man.

The first decree published by Lenin after the triumph of the great October socialist revolution was the decree of peace, which in itself showed abundant and unblemished love for the peace and tranquility of peoples and nations. Lenin's message of peace, freedom and the equality of all people, especially the peoples of the Orient, shows his humane and noble ideals vis-a-vis human society.

Lenin did not only enrich the scientific world view of the class of workers with his profound philosophical and social ideas and assume a basic role in its greatest flourishing--he also implemented this world view in practice, through the profound knowledge of the circumstances and conditions of Russia and the world he possessed, and led the practical basic implementation of it. It is for this reason that his status among all the people of the world is lofty and great.

The name of Lenin has a close, firm link with the establishment of relations of affection and brotherhood between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, since, with the attainment of our country's independence, the Soviet Union was the first country which officially recognized free and independent Afghanistan, and Lenin, as the first workers' leader of the world, sent a message of friendship to His Majesty Amanollah, the king of Afghanistan, in which he supported the establishment of relations of affection between the two countries. Since that date, relationships of good neighborliness and friendship between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union have attained such power and strength that they have emerged triumphantly from the kiln of the test of time.

The glorious April revolution brought friendly relations and bonds between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union, whose origin goes back to the era of the great Lenin, into a new stage.

Now the people of Afghanistan have been making their constructive and revolutionary activity and struggle as broadly coordinated and harmonious as possible, in order to eliminate the various problems which are the legacy of the past eras of tyrannical rulers dependent on reaction and imperialism. As the ideas and thoughts of Lenin are in a state of expansion and spread, they give greater strength and power to people who are fighting against imperialism, reaction and social and economic injustice, and the people of Afghanistan are intensifying their struggle against all kinds and forms of backwardness and conspiracies of American imperialism and regional reaction within tightly-knit, unshakeable ranks. Since the enemies of aware, toiling humanity are those factors and forces which have always played with the destiny of the broad masses of tyrannized people in order to consummate their filthy, tendentious intrigues, the people of Afghanistan take pride in bearing an important role in struggling against the common enemies of the world of mankind.

11887
CSO: 4903

'CRIMINAL' DEEDS OF CIA 'UNVEILED'

Kabul ANIS in Dari 16 Apr 80 pp 4, 5

/Article by M. Sangshakan: "The Curtain Has Been Lifted from the Crimes of the CIA, That Corrupting, Murderous Agency of American Imperialism"/

/Text/ With the awakening of peoples and the national resurrection on the world scene, the rusty chains of colonialism and imperialism around the hands and feet of the freeborn and freedom loving peoples of the world are being ruptured every day as a result of revolutionary uprisings. The bell of the notoriety of colonialism and imperialism rings every day, with the awakening and awareness of the progressive peoples of the world, and the black scroll of archcriminal imperialism is rolled up one place or another every day. Every day, the veil is rolled back from the crimes, sins, murders and killings of the CIA organization and the ugly, satanic face of this organization, the CIA, becomes clear and plain to the tortured, down-trodden people of the world.

How does archcriminal American imperialism, the so-called defender of human rights, under the pretext of defending the rights and freedoms of man, rise up against the interests of the advanced countries of the world? How do they place Pinochet on the throne of power in Chile, Pol Pot and Ieng Sari in Cambodia, Sadat in Egypt and Amin in Afghanistan? How do they outrageously kill and annihilate thousands of patriotic, freedom-loving people who are deeply devoted to science and knowledge?

It is now becoming fully realized by the peoples of the world that the CIA organization has no objective or goal but to kill and pillage free peoples and that it wishes, through the elimination of thousands of people enamored of progress in various countries, to attain its filthy, evil goals. However, in spite of all this, the wiles and crimes behind the scenes of the CIA organization have become fully exposed among the peoples of the world.

There is no nation in the world which does not recognize this murderous, satanic organization and which is not acquainted with its evil acts and corrupting conduct. This center of corruption, which gives force to the recognized tyrants and butchers of history, is the CIA, the very CIA which

gathers professional butchers together under the name "wild geese" under the motto "money by desire, arms by choice, and the objective of killing peoples," and, through these networks and murderous agencies, draws hundreds of patriotic freedomloving people into the dirt and blood through their agents and shoots them.

Finally, it is that very CIA which has trained Zia'oddin 'Mahmud," and his other compatriots, with pounds and dollars and sent them to free, independent Afghanistan and similar countries so that these effective members of the CIA could proceed to engage in sabotage and murder in the name of the sacred values of religion against the freedom-loving people of the young, developing country and deceive and stir up simple religious people against their national governments, which are the guardians of truth, justice and happiness of the toiling people of their countries. In all Islamic countries, the CIA is active in the name of religion, since Zia'oddin Mahmud himself, a citizen of Egypt and member of the CIA organization, stated, in response to reporters' questions, "Of course I admit that I have been trained as a training and fighting spy, and they have deceived me; Abdallah al-Cuqayl in particular assigned us to perform this function" (Abdallah al-Cuqayl is a very wealthy man who has a very easy life, and the government protects him).

The confessions of this CIA representative themselves reveal the point that reactionary circles in the world of Islam, under the tutelage of Sadat--that representative of American imperialism--are frantically trying to erect a barrier before anti-imperialist movements in the world of Islam, but these gentlemen must learn that the tormented peoples of the Islamic countries have now fully recognized their friends and enemies on the national and international stage and know who is working against Islam and who is rising up in defense of the downtrodden peoples of Islam in the worldwide context.

The hue and cry of the Western world, with the complicity of Sadat the traitor and reactionary Arab and Pakistani circles, cannot confuse the minds of the freedomloving, peace-seeking peoples of the world of Islam any longer.

They can no longer act under the guise of religion against religion and deceive our noble people.

Our era is now the era of the liberation of all nations from the fetters of the tyranny of colonialism and imperialism. It is the era when the free peoples of the world are governing their destinies and are consigning reactionary, anti-nationalist forces to the graveyard of history. It is the era when the voice of freedom and the quest for peace cry out in every corner of the world; it is the era when, as a result of their strength, the three potent forces on the world stage--the forces of peace and socialism, the international workers' movement, and the movements of national salvation--are bringing the muddied-footed monster of colonialism and imperialism to its knees, the era in which the warmongers' scope of existence

is becoming narrower and narrower with each passing day. It is the era when the forces of reaction and colonialism are falling, the structures which were built upon oppression and tyranny are collapsing, and, in exchange, national, peace-loving and progressive forces are taking their place in accordance with the law of science and reality

It is for this reason that imperialist circles headed by archcriminal American imperialism are trying, by exporting representatives of the CIA to societies which are taking a progressive stand for the sake of progressive man, are exerting efforts and struggles to create insecurity and anxiety among people by diverse means and ways, in collusion with reactionary circles and ruling colonialist powers, spreading about dollars, pounds, rials and so forth, and, by means of deception and by ensnaring simple hearted people, disturbing the tranquil atmosphere of life of the toiling people.

We have seen that in collaboration with the self-aggrandizers of China, Sadat, Israel, the reactionary government of Pakistan and other reactionary circles, under the leadership of the CIA organization, as well as with the collusion of mercenary agents betraying the country and betraying the interests of the toiling people in our beloved nation, Afghanistan, American imperialism proceeded with a conspiracy in the city of Kabul on the dates of 22-23 February and temporarily disturbed the peaceful life of our noble fellow city dwellers by killing children, women and old men and burning means of transportation and buildings, because imperialism and its accomplices wished, by planning this great historic crime, that the new stage of the April revolution, which is a cycle of progress benefiting the people of Afghanistan, the region and the world, would collapse. Fortunately, with the effective participation of the armed forces, the security forces, the noble people of the city of Kabul and the combative ranks of the Democratic People's Party of Afghanistan, "the vanguard of the working class," this was nipped in the bud. The blackguards, murderers, highway-men, terrorists and servants of the pound and the dollar were punished for their evil acts and once again the activity of the CIA was brought to naught in the face of the progressive, revolutionary forces in free, developing, independent and prosperous Afghanistan. The people say, "We will defend our revolution with our lives and property. There is no force in the world which can prevent the march of the national progressive resurgence in Afghanistan. We are fighting without quarter against the CIA espionage networks in our country, are sweeping away all its remnants, and are causing the banner of peace and freedom to flutter over the peaks of the Hindu Kush, Baidar, Asoma'i, Spingar and Pamirs."

11887
CSO: 4903

CIA ACCUSED OF IMPLEMENTING 'SATANIC PLANS'

Kabul HAIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWR in Darl 5 May 80

[Editorial: "The CIA's Satanic Plans Are Being Thwarted"]

/Text/ Everywhere in the world movements of national salvation try to crush the chains of slavery of the old and new imperialism through the heavy sledgehammer of their liberating struggles and prepare the road for salvation so that people may attain a peaceful life free of oppression, the archcriminal imperialism engages in different kinds of deceitful and disruptive acts in order to place a barrier before the tempest of the people's anger.

However, since these efforts are not in keeping with the direction of history's general movement toward perfection, they are like a swimmer who swims against the rapid current of the water and wants to bring himself to a river bank which never exists for him.

For this reason the glass of the self-sacrificing effort by the imperialism of the United States of America to create an obstacle and barrier in the way of the tempestuous waves of national salvation, which are now opening their roads to the granite heart of history, is being more and more struck with each passing day by the rock of hopelessness and despair, and this is forcing it to use more filthy types of methods in order to attain its unholy objective.

One of these methods is to assemble and train destructive and disruptive elements under the garb and mask of "diplomats."

From the time United States imperialism placed its feet on the stage of world politics in the place of the feet of the old British imperialism, it has tried to use more elegant, covert ways to attain its colonialistic ends, as well as employing its gangsterlike and brigandlike methods.

It was to this end, during the days of the peak of the cold war, when smoke and fire were still rising from the wreckage resulting from the devastating second world war, that unbridled imperialism of the United States clearly

saw that the free countries would rise with their heads high like the phoenix from the fire of that war and sought to create the infernal CIA agency, from whose satanic mind in Langley emerged fearful plans to crush movements of salvation.

Since then, that satanic agency, which was a crystallization of the "vampire" of capital's fear that it would lose its prey, has bared its claws to activities more satanic than that, and one can now simply compile a long, lengthy list of the blackness of its dark deeds, which have not yet been completed, and hang it on the face of the "proponents of human rights" who have drawn into dirt and blood the most combative, the most patriotic, and the most human-loving people, who have raised up the banner of opposition before their greedy interests.

In order to engage in "secure" fashion in its activity of sabotage and destruction, in lands whose people have been awakened from their heavy sleep, by the bell of the forward-moving caravan of progressive mankind, this infernal agency sends its "men" to these countries under the mask of "diplomats" and, if it cannot do that, to their borders.

Now wherever the flag of the struggle against oppression by capital and profits is raised and people decide to put them in the museum of history, their genuine repository, the heads and faces of these "statesmen" appear and after a little while the fire of discord and evil manifests itself in that context.

Let us look at figures. Lissard, employee of the United States embassy, a practiced diplomat--that wicked diplomat whose hand touched nothing but "political" affairs--was expelled from here in 1974, when the revolutionary movement was rising anew in our country. However, at the very time Afghanistan drew the attention of the archcriminal which had again completed its cycle in this strategic region, that is, in 1977, that "diplomat's" head and face again appeared in Pakistan, on the other side of the border of Afghanistan.

Just as the whole scope of American imperialism's hopes turned to ash with the triumph of the glorious April revolution, the satanic-minded schemes of Langley assembled all these old-line and new-line "diplomats" in Pakistan in order to convert that country into "fertile ground" for the counterrevolution.

Again, evidence which cannot be ignored: in August 1979 these "diplomats," by bringing Hafizollah Amin to power, apparently succeeded in completing (!) their dangerous plot, but the uprising of 27 December again shattered the glass of their hope against the rock of despair.

This time, now that they have despaired of their internal bases in Afghanistan, the "diplomats" have hatched another satanic scheme, namely

to gather the heads of the so-called "Afghan mojaheds" together and "unite" them.

However, the infernal forces have forgotten one thing, and that is that the people of Afghanistan have grasped the tiller of the vessel of their destiny by the hand and will allow no forces to hatch satanic plots to crush them.

11887

CSO: 4903

CIA LABELED 'PROP OF ANTIREVOLUTION' MOVEMENT

Kabul HAQIQAT-E ENQELAB-E SAWE in Dari 9 Apr 80 p 2

[Editorial: "CIA--Prop of the Counterrevolution"/

/Text/ From the days of the inception of the glorious April revolution which created a radical change in the structure of political power, and, for the first time in the 5,000-year history of this country over which the system of tribal chieftains held an infernal dominance, and in which the lives of the masses of the millions were in a wretched state, placed the two inimical ranks in conscious confrontation with one another;

From the very moment of the shift of power, the clear, obvious line was drawn between revolutionary, popular forces seeking change on the one hand and obsolete reactionary forces dependent on exploitative imperialist circles on the other.

The drawing of this line has taken place not only within clashing social groups and classes in our society but is also proceeding beyond the borders; thus, both ranks are engaged in drawing up forces in confrontation with one another on the international stage.

The revolutionary forces seeking change, which, by benefiting from the gains of the transfer of political power, wished to bring the national democratic revolution to its destination, have acquired international friends on their side who have always been companions and helpers in the worst of conditions. However, on the other side of this line, sworn domestic enemies, with the collusion of their international aides, have tried with all their power to stop the movement of the wheel of history for a moment, even if they could not turn it back.

World imperialism--the pillars of whose existence have been shaken by the tempest of the anger of oppressed peoples--has assigned to its gendarme, which has been crystallized in the existence of American imperialism, the unholy duty of preventing the growth and development of the glorious April revolution, which has burned its mercenary being in the fire of revolutionary measures.

The monopolistic circles of America have assigned the infernal CIA agency, which sets forth black schemes with its satanic "Langley" mind, to crush the revolutionary social tempest, to get to work and, by creating so-called "patriotic" groups, to organize the assembled nuclei of sworn enemies. This satanic mind, which has assembled the best conspiratorial experts in its midst through the money which it has acquired by windfall through the exploitation of the peoples of the world, became exposed after the 27 December uprising, whose latent conspiracy was crystallized in the existence of "Amin," that loyal CIA spy, when the poisoned snake attempted a murderous effort to "regain" the position which had been lost. Thus it was that this conspiratorial agency, in the first days after the 27 December uprising--that is, during the month of January--proceeded in a very secret, hidden meeting in Washington to create a so-called "Afghan government in exile" and the great monopolies "allocated" enormous sums of money to this end, in order to handle this business. All that remained was for so-called "national leaders" to get to work on behalf of this "government;" however, no matter how hard they sifted through the political dossier on Pakistani soil, they found no such person, and the decision was therefore reached to "buy" mercenary groups with this money. These groups, after receiving training in sabotage and the spreading of confusion, would enter Afghanistan and, by creating turmoil, prevent the revolution from entering its stage of construction and development.

At this secret session Frank (Carlucci), the assistant director of the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), even gave a lengthy speech demanding that these mercenaries of war be armed to the teeth. The American government, which made itself "innocently" seem uninformed about this matter, gave him the authority to "arm" these confusion-spreading groups.

The prodigality of the American government, which still denies that it has armed these hireling bands, has reached the point where it is not content with arming these mercenaries with light weapons--it is even prepared to make heavy vehicles, anti-tank rockets and even ground-to-air missiles available to them so that through these "trivial arms" they could stop the course of social revolution, which through the 27 December uprising is now sweeping every obstacle from its path.

11887

CSO: 4903

SAWR REVOLUTION LABELLED 'A TURNING POINT'

Kabul ANS in Dari 17 Apr 80 p 4

[Editorial: "Those Who Have Sacrificed Themselves for the Revolution"]

/Text/ In the period when, drunk on the wine of power, the oppressive ruling circles were leaning on the throne of dominance, opposing every movement and uprising, torturing the genuine and just children of this nation on various pretexts, and eliminating them by various intrigues and measures, the revolutionary uprising of Afghanistan, in offering great sacrifices and having profound roots among the masses, not only neutralized the plots and wilful acts of the reactionary and tyrannical agencies of the time--through a profound, scientific analysis of the conditions and circumstances of the society, and through the application of its manifesto of ideals to the requests and hopes of the toiling suffering people of the country, it also prepared the ground for the permanent downfall of the dwellers in the palaces of the rapacious, anti-popular regime of the Yahya Dynasty.

The triumphant April revolution, which is considered to be a great turning point not only in the venerable, eventful history of our country but also in the region as well, is the product of the sufferings, battles and blood of the true patriotic and self-sacrificing people of this country who are fighting to the last of their lives to preserve the freedom of their country and fighting for the sake of the perfection and advancement of their society, for the sake of the triumph of truth over vanity and light and brightness over shadow and darkness. By spilling their blood they have made their names immortal. The triumph of the revolution was not a simple, easy matter. Reaction and tyranny, with their ancient, deep roots and their extremely close, comprehensive bonds with imperialism and colonialism, fought against it with all the means and powers they had at their disposal. They thought they could block the people's will through acts of force and pressure and through terror and the murder of patriots, and delay their absolute, rapid annihilation.

However, imperialism, and the persons appointed by and attentive to the orders of colonialism in Afghanistan, forgot that the blood of those

fighting for truth and justice is not lost but that rather the revolutionary process and the movement of liberation bear fruit and bring the time of the overthrow of reaction and tyranny closer through it.

During a half century of sway in our country, the savage, oppressive family of Nader and Daud did everything it could against our nation and against our people. It deliberately held our beloved nation Afghanistan back from accompanying the caravan of world civilization, and our long-suffering people will not be able so soon to forget the shameless murders of the butcher Hashem and the tyrannical shows of force of Daud--those servile servants of imperialism.

The martyr Mir Akbar Khaybar was the victim of the path of the people and the nation's self-sacrificing fighter. His struggles, and his acts of self sacrifice and heroism against the conspiracies of the ruling regime, are a good lesson for all our compatriots.

The people of Afghanistan will never surrender to the evil intrigues of imperialism and reaction. Whenever the tyrants wanted to create barriers to the attainment of our people's ideals, the freedomloving men and women of this land, even by shedding their own blood, prevented the filthy designs of the enemies of the nation and the enemies of the people from being implemented in practice.

We cherish the memory of those who have sacrificed themselves for the nation, the people and the revolution. Their acts are a source of pride for us and their struggles are a good lesson and model for all patriots. The scions of this nation, with abundant love and zeal for their nation, are prepared to make every kind of generous self-sacrifice, self-abnegation and self-denial to guard and preserve it and to advance the rapid progress and perfection of their society, because the love of freedom and passion for the nation has been instilled in the veins, skin and blood of every member of this country. Those who as a consequence of the attack by the tyrannical and reactionary forces are covering their faces from this world have not been forgotten--they are the pride of the nation and their names are engraved eternally in the tablet of the memory of our people and on the page of our nation's existence.

Our people are pursuing the road of the strugglers and people who have sacrificed themselves for the country with pride and honor and, just as we are overthrowing and annihilating the enemies of the nation and the people, we are doing what we can on behalf of the progress and advancement of our nation, because our profound sense of patriotism desires such a thing and the lofty, sacred ideals of those who have given their lives for the sake of a better and superior nation will also by these means be realized.

11887
CSO: 4903

BRIEFS

HANGINGS, FIGHTING AT KUNDUZ--Kabul, 11 Apr (P.P.I.)--The mujahedin, after a bloody fight in Begram, killed 190 soldiers of the Afghan army. The commander of the Afghan army later joined with the mujahedin. After the confrontation, the Russians retaliated strongly against the insurgents. The mujahedin also attacked the town of Khanabad in the Kunduz region and killed 12 soldiers of the Afghan army. Eight Russians were killed [in addition to the Afghan soldiers]. The mujahedin also captured a large amount of ammunition, including 12 Russian-made machine guns. According to reports, the Babrak administration has hanged 13 Afghan intellectuals in Kunduz jail. It is also reported that a large part of the Kunduz region at this time is in the hands of the mujahedin insurgents. [Text] [Quetta JANG in Urdu 12 Apr 80 p 1] 9612

CSO: 4203

'LE MONDE' VIEWS RUNUP TO ALGERIAN PARTY CONGRESS

LD231401 Paris LE MONDE in French 20 May 80 p 5

[Interim correspondent report: "The Next FLN Congress Should Enable President Bendjedid To Increase His Power"]

[Text] Algiers--Preparations for the National Liberation Front (FLN) extraordinary congress planned for the second 2 weeks in June are in full swing. A committee chaired by Minister of Tourism Abdelmadjid Allahoum is working, mainly on drawing up lists of candidates and preparing the material for this congress; a second, officially described as a "special committee," is chaired by Religious Affairs Minister Boualem Baki. It began work on Saturday and is to propose amendments to the existing FLN rules with a view to increasing the powers of FLN Secretary General President Chadli Bendjedid. It is also to propose restructuring the party to simplify its administrative system which has complicated 18 months ago by the creation of about 10 "grand commissions" specially intended to be superimposed on the existing "departments."

These two committees are directly responsible to the head of state and do not include any member of the existing Politburo whose members have all been excluded from preparations for the forthcoming congress. This fact, and the cancellation of its last weekly meeting on Wednesday, tends to confirm that the Politburo is "frozen" pending a radical reshuffle. At its last session from 6 through 10 May the Central Committee had severely criticized the FLN "executive" for its "inertia" and given "unqualified support" to President Chadli Bendjedid in "carrying out the changes he regards as necessary" at the head of the party and the state. These "full powers" should, in principle, be confirmed in June by the FLN extraordinary congress.

The turn which events are taking is not really any surprise. Indeed differences of opinion had been brewing for several months among the members of the Politburo whose "composition" when it was formed in February 1979 corresponded more to the immediate concerns arising from the vacuum left by President Boumediene's sudden death than to the need for far-reaching, long-term action in all spheres.

Since then the political debate has polarized around the two major factions led by two former "candidates" for the presidential "candidacy"--FLN Coordinator Mohammed Salah Yahiaoui and former Foreign Minister Abdelaziz Bouteflika, while alliances have been broken as quickly as they have emerged in an oppressive and paralyzing atmosphere.

The stake in this "dark battle" is "continuity" and "change" in the development strategy implemented 10 years ago.

Some people would like a few alterations while preserving the "fundamental achievements" (state monopoly over the whole economy) and others advocate giving more place to private initiative, especially in manufacturing the "second generation" of Algerian industrial products in the wake of the basic industries already established.

Against this background it is important to bear in mind the impact of the recent events in Tizi-Ouzou and, a few months earlier, the strike by Arab students which revealed internal tensions and had some effect on the whole country.

By having the Central Committee decide in his favor, President Chadli Bendjedid seems to have dismissed both factions ending a debate deemed "sterile" while many outstanding matters are awaiting specific decisions. This makes this political plan even clearer: To form a homogeneous working team around him which will take responsibility for implementing the 1980-1984 5-year plan immediately after its approval by the forthcoming extraordinary FLN congress.

CSO: 4400

FOOD IMPORTS, CONSUMPTION, PRODUCTION, PRICES DISCUSSED

Algiers REVOLUTION AFRICAINE in French 2-8 May 80 pp 23-26

[Article by A. Bourran: "Dangers of 'Food Power'"]

[Text] Twenty Percent of the Oil Revenue

Algeria has not escaped the general trend, which affects the developing countries, of being dependent on others for its food supplies.

Average Yearly progression of food imports under
the various plans (in millions of dinars):

3-year Plan	First 4-year Plan	Second 4-year Plan
731	925	4,049

Cereal grain imports more than doubled in the period between the two latest plans climbing from 6,184 to 16,426 million quintals (22.98 percent in 1978).

Canada and the United States supply 80 percent of our cereal grain imports. The U.S. share of our total food imports has jumped from 14.21 percent for the 1970-73 period to 24.7 percent for the 1974-77 period.

In its 18 October 1979 issue, the national daily EL MOUDJAHID reported that "the intensification of this integration with the North American grain market became more pronounced when the Center for Research and Industrial Development, an organization with headquarters in Ottawa (Canada), appointed the director general of the OAC (International Algerian Grain Office) as governor to keep Algeria in the sphere of trade."

A list of our trade partners appears in the following chart showing how our imports are distributed:

Imports: 10⁶ dinars

Foodstuffs and Beverages

A	1974	1975	1976	1977
Total	1,344	4,633	3,595	4,425
USA	1,244	1,534	785	450
Brazil	686	686	571	811
France	622	1,162	519	404
Canada	151	385	277	294
Italy	10	172	186	245
FRG	10	26	168	165

Source: Statistics on foreign trade, MPAT (expansion unknown)

There is an obvious decline of imports from the United States and France while those from Brazil, Italy and the FRG show a continued and appreciable increase. Food supplies and beverages amounted to 19.2 percent of our total imports in 1973, to 20 percent in 1974, to 19.5 percent in 1975, to 16.2 percent in 1976 and to 15 percent in 1977.

In terms of foreign currency leaving the country, our food imports for 1974 represent 20 percent of the petrol revenue for that same year.

We import six groups of goods: cereal grains (mainly hard and soft wheat), sugar, oil, milk and its by-products, dried vegetables and the group which consists of coffee, tea and spices.

Exports of foodstuffs and beverages: 10⁶ DA (Algerian dinars)

	1974	1975	1976	1977
Total	664	687	628	551
USSR	322	352	333	219
France	116	155	150	147

Grain imports represent 32 percent of the national consumption; fats, 80 percent; dried vegetables, 30 percent; eating potatoes, 10 percent. Imported cereal grains, sugar, fats, milk and its by-products provide 46.5 percent of the calorie intake and 35.7 percent of the protein intake of Algeria's daily diet.

We are importing a lot of food and exporting too little. In addition, our exports show a declining trend.

Since we are chiefly a wine exporter, one must expect these exports to decline even further due to steps which have been taken to reconvert the vineyards and to the aging of the plants (30 percent of the plants are more than between 25 and 30 years old).

In 1973, foodstuffs represented 11.6 percent of our exports; in 1974, 3.3 percent; in 1975, 3.6 percent; in 1976, 2.7 percent and in 1977, 2.2 percent.

Population Growth and Monetary Yields Give the Impression of a Decline in Production

One cannot deny the obvious fact that the proportion of domestically produced food has constantly declined since 1969.

--90 percent in 1969; 55 percent in 1973; 41 percent in 1977.

Does that mean that the domestic production has declined? What is the progression of its overall index figure?

--100 in 1969; 101.9 in 1970; 104.9 in 1971; 110.1 in 1972; 100.1 in 1973; 108 in 1974; 132 in 1975; 121.2 in 1976; 101.6 in 1977.

During the same period as the one selected to determine the proportion of domestically produced food, our domestic production went through ups and downs but, nonetheless, failed to register any unusual decline.

The decline in the proportion of nationally produced food is more the result of population growth (an additional 6 million people since the 1966 census) and of the increase of monetary yields (the monetary mass index rose from 100 in 1969 to 278 in 1975).

A rapid survey will convince us that consumption has increased at a very fast rate. Between 1963 and 1974, grain production stood at an average of 1.7 million tons. Consumption went up from 184.6 kilos to 194.1 kilos per capita, an increase of just over 1 million tons.

On the whole, there is more consumption than production except for fruits which are even exported although in increasingly smaller amounts.

The following chart summarizes the progression of production and consumption (expressed in tons) from 1964 to 1974. The annual consumption per inhabitant is given on the second line in brackets.

In our opinion, the fact that production has remained at that level represents a genuine achievement. Why? Because, basically, agriculture has suffered a serious loss of resources easily noticeable in various spheres: losses in terms of manpower and land, material losses and loss of water resources...

	Production (tons)		Consumption (tons)	
	1964	1974	1964	1974
Cereal Grains	1,700,000		1,840,000 (184.6)	2,970,000 (194.1)
Dried Vegetables	39,000	52,000	35,000 (3.2)	65,000 (4.3)
Fruits	756,000	858,000	915,000 (33.4)	754,000 (49.3)
Fresh Vegetables	491,800	721,500	504,000 (37.3)	778,900 (50.9)
Meats	58,000	100,000	67,000 (6.3)	100,000 (6.5)

By material losses we mean the deficits created by a lack of substantial investments. These investments are estimated according to what should have been done to keep things as they are. Therefore, one is a long way from an improvement.

In the general statement, which gave a list of the agricultural equipment to be purchased during the second Four-year Plan, it was carefully pointed out that the contemplated purchases would barely help to keep things as they were before the plan was launched. Now, looking at the first years of the plan, one can see that the realizations (therefore, the real expenditures for the purchase of equipment) only absorbed between 35 and 45 percent of the allocations.

An additional factor is that although the prices of agricultural machinery were officially fixed by Ordinance No 74-87 of 25 April 1974, they nonetheless went up in 1976 when the Ministry of Finances required that the TUGP [Single Total Production Tax] be paid. With this tax, the sale price of a wheel-type tractor went up by 8.5 percent; the price of a caterpillar tractor went up by 17 percent; the price of a combine harvester-thresher and of a picker-baler went up by 8.5 percent; the price of a mounted three-bottom plow went up by 10 percent and the price of a 10-disk stubble plow went up by 11.25 percent. Between 1973 and 1977 the unit price of agricultural machinery went up by 10 percent and the unit price of irrigation equipment by more than 75 percent.

With the exception of fertilizers and pesticides, the prices of which were stabilized by Ordinance No 74-88 of 25 April 1974 and Ordinance No 75-47 of 27 April 1975 respectively, seeds also went up. For instance, between 1974 and 1977 a quintal of potato seed jumped from 93 to 180 DA; a kilo of tomato seed (marmande VR) from 40 to 80 DA; a kilo of eggplant seed (long purple early variety) from 36 to 65 DA. During the same period, the price of an agrumetta tree sapling increased by more than 31 percent (from 8 to 10.5 DA) and the price of an olive tree sapling by more than 70 percent (from 5 to 8.5 DA). After comparing these figures with the progression of production prices, the MARA [Ministry of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform] introduced a memorandum at a cabinet meeting held during the 1977-78 season pointing out that "the succession of increases in production prices cannot be interpreted as an encouragement to produce."

Average Increases in Production Prices for the 1971-1977 Period

Cereal grains, 66 percent; wines, 40 percent; cocktail olives, 55 percent; fresh vegetables, 150 percent; crops for industrial purpose, 90 percent; dried vegetables, 165 percent; olive oil, 70 percent; fresh fruits, 50 percent; alfalfa, 130 percent; potatoes, 26 percent; onions, 9 percent; artichokes, 18 percent; tomatoes, 16 percent; garlic, 8 percent; zucchini, 18 percent; carrots, 20 percent; turnips, 16 percent; beans, 25 percent.

When we speak of material losses as a sign of loss of investment we mean not only that the existing equipment is insignificant because there is not enough of it but also that this equipment has become a burden because it is difficult to pay it off. The land has also deteriorated.

Estimates show that to meet the needs of the year 2,000 Algeria must increase its cultivated land by 250,000 hectares which means an average of 12,000 hectares a year. However, the amount of land developed in recent years is less than the amount of agricultural land used for other purposes, chiefly for industrial and housing purposes. The gap could become wider since land development, when possible, is a long and difficult process while the land is being used for other purposes at a fast rate and in massive amounts.

There are also losses caused by a recurrence of salinity in some regions due to the lack of drainage (Mohammadia plain, Sig.,)

There is also a loss of human investment expressed in terms of rural exodus, rural unemployment, aging of the agricultural labor force and lack of training. First there is a massive and ever increasing migration of the rural populations towards the towns of the interior when the coastal towns reached a saturation point. Between 1966 and 1973, we had a migration of 120,000 persons a year and between 1973 and 1977 the figure was 130,000 persons a year.

There is also a contradictory phenomenon: a large offer of jobs in agriculture and a substantial number of unemployed.

First, let us look into the job offer. In the self-management sector, the job offer was estimated to stand at 132,000 days of work in 1968 and 121,301 days of work in 1973. In the private sector the offer is practically nil. But in 1977, according to data extracted from the general population and housing census, 280,000 persons from the agricultural sector were listed as unemployed, of which 75,000 were over 15 years of age and had previously held a job in farming, 170,000 persons living in rural areas and who could be mobilized were looking for their first job. The other 135,000 unemployed were people aged between 18 and 59 who said that "they were not looking for a job."

This information is surprising to say the least. It can be connected to the devaluation of agricultural jobs. Let us not forget that until 1971 the daily earnings of a member of a self-management workers' collective was

7.54 DA (15.30 a day in 1976). What is known as an advance on earnings is really a salary. It is therefore easy to understand why 30 percent of the workers from the self-management sector are retired today. It is after all a well deserved retirement. The fourth factor in the loss of manpower is the lack of vocational training among workers and cooperative members and the bad placement of technical cadres (according to the resolution adopted by the Third National Council of the UNJA [National Union of Algerian Youth] "30 percent of the trained cadres are assigned to jobs in the spheres of administration and services at the expense of cadre positions in the field.")

To all these problems one must add the environmental ones.

8796

CSO: 4400

FLN REAFFIRMS DECISION ON GENERALIZING USE OF ARABIC

Paris LE MONDE in French 11-12 May 80 p 2

[Text] Algiers. The desire for "continuity" definitely won out in the latest decisions made by the FLN (National Liberation Front) Central Committee, a summary of which was published on Friday evening, 9 May, 48 hours after the closing of its first regular session for the year 1980. The lively debates--termed "frank, militant, and democratic" by President Chadli Bendjedid--provided a hint as to those that will take place in June on the occasion of the special FLN congress which will examine and adopt the next five-year plan (1980-1984).

This is particularly true of agriculture, a both complex and controversial subject. The three reports which were circulated before the opening of the meeting agreed on one point: stagnation of production which now meets only 40 percent of the requirements, farm workers getting older, with close to half of them having reached retirement age, deficiencies in "support structures" for production (workshops and sales cooperatives, financing and supply), etc. They disagree however on the recommendations submitted to the Central Committee in order to extricate this sector, which is so vital to the Algerian economy, from the mess it has been in for the past several years. Among other proposals, some recommend the establishment of big state farms, managed like industrial units; others suggest streamlining the operating methods, going even so far as to contemplating the idea of having the government rent out land, which belongs to it, to private operators. Between these two extremes, the Central Committee decided to stick to the broad outlines of the three current production structures: self-management on the old colonial farms, cooperatives of the agrarian revolution on government land and land nationalized after 1971, and a private sector made up of small and medium farms.

In this context, the government could decide to make any improvements it considers useful, such as subdividing the self-managed estates whose gigantic size (averaging 1,000 hectares per establishment) has been blamed for shortcomings in their management; elimination of any office or organization whose existence interferes with the development of production, etc. The government must thus take action above all down the line and up the line

in the production sector, working on the "environment" of agriculture, "in order to relieve the agricultural sector of the internal and external restraints which alter its socialist development."

Among the most important decisions made in this area we have the creation of a specialized agricultural bank which will take the place of the BNA (National Bank of Algeria), frequently criticized for "its orthodox management" of farm credit. The new institution will have broad powers to finance the development, equipment, or exploitation "of all agricultural production or service units." Loan award procedures will be streamlined, the prior check on expenditures, currently in force, will be replaced with a subsequent check in order to permit the beneficiaries freely to manage the loans which they may have gotten.

Strategic Objective

Concerning Arabization, another burning issue debated during this meeting, the Central Committee asserted once again that "the general use of the Arabic language is a strategic objective"; debate is permitted only on "the best methods and the most suitable means for implementing this." It thus followed President Chadli who had stated, in a recent speech on the eve of the demonstrations in Tizi-Ouzou, that "the question of being Arabic or not being Arabic no longer comes up in Algeria." Referring to these events, without mentioning them by name, the Central Committee once again condemned "the colonialist plans aimed at attacking the unity of the nation" and asserted its "determination to defend the sovereignty of the country, the integrity of its territory, and the unity of its people."

The specific measures which will be taken in short-range, medium-range, and long-range terms, aimed at the general use of Arabic as the "working language" in the party, the public enterprises, the elected assemblies, the technical and artistic sectors, etc., will have to be inserted into the development plans as of the next five-year plan for 1980-1984. Voluntary actions as well as the assignment of recruits from "national service" are planned in order to carry out this assignment.

The press of the party and the mass organizations must be made to switch to the Arabic language by a deadline which has not yet been specified. This decision involves especially REVOLUTION AFRICAINE, the central organ of the FLN; REVOLUTION ET TRAVAIL, the organ of the General Union of Algerian Workers; and UNITE, the organ of the Union of Algerian Youth. However, the daily EL MOUDJAHID and the weekly magazine ALGERIA ACTUALITE, published by the information ministry, will continue to come out in French. An Arabic language academy, which has been given the name Houari-Boumediene Academy, will be established. The implementation of these measures will be supervised by the chief of state who will assure "the coordination, supervision, and evaluation of the various projects."

Looking finally at tourism, the decisions made are in keeping with the anticipated development of an "essentially domestic tourism" and the wider opening of this sector to private initiative involving the construction of small hotel and restaurant units which would supplement the big government establishments.

5058

CSO: 4400

ALGERIA

BRIEFS

SPECIAL FLN STUDY COMMITTEE--President Chadli yesterday installed the following members of the party's special committee responsible for studying its principal organizations and preparing amendments to its by-laws: Baki Boualem, chairman, Ben Mostefa Ben Aouda, Abdelmalek Benhabyles, Slimane Hoffman, Rachid Benyelles, Ahmed Ali Ghazali, Brahim Brahmia, Mohammed Bedjaoui, Boualem Bessaïeh, Salah Louanchi. The committee held its first meeting yesterday afternoon. [Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 18 May 80 p 1]

CSO: 4400

EGYPTIAN LEADER DISCUSSES LAW ON EGYPTIAN JUDICIARY, PRESS

LD291515 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 27 May 80 p 7

[Article by Dr Muhammad Hilmi Murad: "Consultative Council Has No Right To Own Egyptian Press; Are We Heading Toward a Slaughter of Judges and Journalists?" published simultaneously by Cairo's AL-SHA'B, organ of the Egyptian Socialist Labor Party]

[Excerpts] President Anwar al-Sadat has twice strongly attacked members of the judiciary men who have expressed their disapproval of the law of ethics, once as president of the republic in his speech to the People's Assembly on 14 May, regarding such expression as political action, and again in his capacity as prime minister in the speech containing his directives to the ministers and governors at the first cabinet meeting on 19 May when he asked the minister of justice to deal with the matter by setting up a committee on values from within the judiciary.

Speaking at the same meeting, the president instructed the minister of information and culture to draft a new press bill in accordance with the new constitutional amendments on the grounds that the press is an authority and to submit the bill to the People's Assembly before its summer recess. The aim of the bill is to turn the press syndicate into a club and make the higher press council the body responsible for press affairs. He also instructed him to couple the press bill with another bill providing for the re-registration of journalists.

These two instructions bring to mind the story of the story of judges in September 1969 and the action against some journalists who were transferred from their work in press establishments in order to work in fisheries or shoe factories. The people now wonder: Are we heading for a new slaughter of judges and journalists on the orders of the top state authorities at a time when the slogan of democracy and the rule of the law is being raised?

It is ironical indeed that some of the judiciary should be accused of indulging in political action when they did no more than exercise a right and even a duty provided for in Article 173 of the current constitution. The article provides that the opinion of the higher council of the judiciary bodies should be sought on any bill relating to judiciary bodies' affairs.

If an expression of views on bills related to the judiciary bodies is a constitutional requirement why is it regarded as shameful behavior simply because such views do not agree with the desires of the government and the ruling party, whereas lauding and praising political decisions pleases and satisfies the authorities? Are we to understand from this that what is required is to be always approving and to abolish every view that disagreed with the views of the ruling authorities?

When the decision to abolish the state of emergency (the martial laws) was announced the so-called national press published views by members of the judiciary expressing their pleasure at the abolition of martial laws and the return to normalcy where rules of public law prevail and everybody abides by constitutional provisions. In fact, these papers published on 23 May a telegram from the chairman of the judges' club congratulating President Anwar al-Sadat, who is also chairman of one of the parties and prime minister of the present government, on the occasion of the 15 May revolution and thanking him for abolishing the state of emergency. Is his excellency's action of sending this telegram considered a judiciary action or a political one?

Supposing that one of the judges expressed a different view on the decision to abolish the martial law, as saying, for example, that turning many of the exceptional powers under the martial law into permanent laws--such as the law of ethics which permits citizens to be arrested and detained in a particular place, their property to be placed under custodianship and so-called "measures" to be taken against them, and the law of the state security court that permits two military judges, who can be dismissed and are not independent of their headquarters, to sit with specialized judges--takes away much of the significance of the abolition decision and of the freedom, the judiciary guarantees, and the normal legal life to which the people have been looking forward--would such a judge be regarded in the same way as the other judges who have expressed their total satisfaction with the abolition decision?

What I mean to explain is that the executive organs and those in positions of political power should not use double standards and should not make support and approval their criterion since this would be disgraceful and an answerable action. Such a behavior cannot be democratic and conducive to listening to the other view with an open mind and heart.

CSO: 4802

WORKERS FEDERATION EXPLAINS POSITION ON NORMAL RELATIONS WITH HISTADRUT

Caoro AL-'UMMAL in Arabic 24 Mar 80 p 1

[Article: "Statement From General Federation of Workers Regarding What Has Been Published About Relations With Histadrut"]

[Text] The General Federation of Egyptian Workers issued yesterday a statement on the labor relations with the Histadrut--the Federation of Israeli Workers--in response to the issues that the information media have recently raised in connection with the statements made by the chairman of the General Federation of Workers on this subject.

Following is the text of the statement:

Some information media have recently raised questions regarding what the federation chairman said in connection with normalizing the relations with the Histadrut at the final session of the federation's General Assembly on 28 February 1980.

To explain the facts, the General Federation of Egyptian Workers, in view of the published reports that are far from the truth, wishes to underline the following:

1. Representing all the Egyptian workers, the General Federation expressed from the outset its support for the initiative of the president of the republic to establish just peace in the Middle East. The federation also supported the two Camp David accords and all provisions of the peace treaty.
2. Throughout this phase, the General Federation has asserted that it links the steps to normalize its relations with the labor movement in Israel with a positive position by this movement and by its unionist organization--the Histadrut--toward implementation of the spirit and provisions of the two Camp David accords and of the peace treaty, especially in regard to approving the Palestinian self-rule, the Arabism of Jerusalem and removal of the Israeli settlements from the Bank and the Strip. Inasmuch as the Histadrut exerts efforts to achieve this goal, so much will the Egyptian unionist movement advance in its steps to normalize the relations with the Histadrut.

3. The federation chairman's statement at the General Assembly reflected this position and expressed the feelings of the Egyptian worker masses toward this important issue that strengthens peace in the Middle East and in the entire world, especially in light of the recent positions and statements made by the Israeli officials.

The Egyptian labor unionist movement, led by its General Federation, stands firmly and steadfastly behind leader and President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat in his struggle to lay down the foundations of peace and supports all his tremendous steps, imploring God to give him success and lead him on the right path.

8494

CSO: 4802

GRAVEYARDS TURNING INTO DWELLING PLACES FOR LIVING

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 21 Mar 80 pp 63-65

[Article by Mahmud al-Tukhi: "Graveyard Dwellers in Cairo Number More Than 7,000 People; al-Mujawirun Cemetery Has Become Fertile Ground for Middlemen, White Slave Merchants and Drug Traffickers; Mother of Five Told Me: Mr, Please Talk to Government for Us, This Is Pitiable"]

[Text] The biting joke that they fed the computer the following question: How can a university graduate who is about to get married to a lady university graduate, both of whom work, get an apartment in Cairo?

The computer blew up, being unable to answer the question.

A friend of mine who has been working as a prosecution attorney in Cairo since 1968 and who was conscripted and crossed the canal in the October war started to think of marriage. His fiancée happened to be, by pure chance, a cousin of the minister of housing. However, delivery of the apartment was delayed for a full year despite the generous promises made to the fiancée by her cousin. Any apartment required an advance payment of 2,000 Egyptian pounds. The friend came to London and washed dishes for a year. Upon returning to Cairo with the needed sum of money, the advance payment had risen to 5,000 pounds. The friend resigned from the judiciary corps and took the job of head barman at the Cairo Airport Sheraton Hotel where the salary was tenfold his salary as a prosecution attorney. He got married and has lived in a furnished apartment whose rent is twice the salary of a prosecution attorney. But not all Egyptians are prosecution attorneys, university graduates or even hotel workers. The simple people of Egypt suffer most heavily from the housing problem. The population of three governorates--Port Said, Ismailia and Suez--was evacuated after the June 1967 war. When the return started, Port Said had turned into a free zone and Suez and Ismailia were in need of complete development and reconstruction operations, not to mention those who found work in the capital and decided to stay there.

Cairo's population is growing at a terrible pace. The construction and housing activity, despite its high rates, is unable to keep up pace with the

population growth and finds it difficult to meet the rising need for houses, especially since the private sector controls the lion's share of this activity. Added to this is the problem of the large number of old houses that collapse day after day on the heads of their occupants or that are evicted by government orders so that they may be demolished before they collapse. The state is trying to deal with the deteriorating crisis but the economy is ailing in a state that hardly emerges from one war before entering into another.

You may hear about families comprised of 10 or more members living in a single room or about a family that lives in a tent or in dwellings without water or electricity. But the phenomenon that has emerged now and that is escalating in a stunning manner is the phenomenon of the march of the living to dwell in the graveyards of the dead.

Wait a minute, this is no printing mistake. The area from al-Qal'ah until Naser City--an area including Bab al-Wazir, al-Mujawirun cemetery, al-Ghafir, al-Sayyidah 'A'ishah, al-Imam al-Shafi'i and al-Basatin--has been the area of Cairo's graveyards for tens and tens of years. This area runs parallel to an enormous civilizational accomplishment, namely the Salah Salim highway and a rapid overhead bridge. Hundreds of thousands of homeless people live in this area.

It is well-known that the Egyptians celebrate their sad occasions as they celebrate their joyous occasions and that they are especially interested in the idea of death which has its traditions and customs among them. This interest dates back to the age of the pharaohs. Contrary to the customs and traditions in most parts of the Arab world, a so-called courtyard is attached to a grave in Egypt. This courtyard is very similar to a small house or a simple apartment to which the family of the deceased goes to spend some days on the occasion of 'id al-fitr, 'id al-adha and other annual occasions with the memories of the deceased. Very often, the family cemetery is the social meeting place for the relatives on such occasions. Hundreds of thousands of the living have marched to these cemeteries or courtyards to use them as their dwellings and residences.

At the outset, this phenomenon evoked the resentment of the owners of the cemeteries. But with the escalation of the phenomenon, the owners held their peace or preferred to go silent, especially since the police's endeavors to evacuate the cemeteries have failed. Municipal housing is unavailable and the situation could lead to some sort of violence. Like any phenomenon, a class of beneficiaries has emerged. This class is comprised of the grave guards or grave diggers who are called al-turabiyah. These people have begun to collect a rent ranging from 5 pounds to 10 pounds monthly, depending on the "location" and the proximity of the cemetery to the public road. The inhabitants have been forced to pay, especially since one of the means to which the beneficiaries have resorted is that of violence. The only condition for occupancy is that the cemeteries be evacuated on the occasions when the owners of the graveyards visit their relatives who are buried there.

Therefore, it has become customary to see hundreds of thousands sleeping in the open among heaps of their belongings until such occasions are over. It has also become customary for a family dwelling in a cemetery to gather its belongings and move out until the ground is dug up and a newly "deceased" is buried and until the end of the Koran prayers and of the successive visits made to the grave throughout the 40-day mourning period.

On top of all of this, the dwellers of Cairo graveyards live under extremely harsh conditions. There are no facilities, no toilets, no water and, naturally, no electricity. The dwellers carry their vessels and travel for long distances to return with water. Natural functions are performed out of sight. Candle light and the light of kerosene lamps is the means of illumination. The tombstones have turned into storage places or cooking places or into columns among which lines are strung to hang the laundry to dry. Darkness descends on the place early and the number of newborn babies is rising fearfully.

I spent 2 days moving among them, photographing them and talking to them. They include government workers and employees and university students. They have behind them hundreds of tragic stories--widows, families whose houses have collapsed, emigrants from the canal areas, white slave merchants and cadaver and coffin thieves. It is a strange world living in the middle of Cairo. The problem is escalating and the state is doing all it can to find a solution. But the most that the state can do is not enough to solve the problem yet. Housing has become the problem of all problems for people with limited income, not to mention the destitute.

In terms of health, the problem is a tragedy. For such large numbers of people to live in the graveyards without any health facilities undoubtedly creates fertile grounds for social diseases. The presence of thousands of people in such a climate generates bloody fights and conflicts among all the parties involved--the graveyard owners, the dwellers and the groups of beneficiaries.

Morally and in terms of security, these areas are located in the bosom of al-Muqattam mountain and of Zaynham hills which have been and which continue to be the site for the hiding places of ruthless criminals, drug merchants and dangerous outlaws.

I ask them before they ask me: What is the solution?

Some suggest that the state take control of the vast areas of gardens and open spaces across the graveyards area and build houses for them there. But these lands are the private property of citizens.

A university student gets emotional while suggesting that all move like an army to occupy all the new buildings that remain unoccupied while their owners wait for enormous advance payments and rents or exorbitant sale prices.

Another person tells him that the strong are the owners of these buildings.

A third replies that with peace, all will go well.

The group disperses with the approach of a funeral entering the place. Silence prevails and voices rise to chant Koran phrases and the testimony "there is no god but God."

Before departing, a young woman surrounded by her 5 children tells me: "Please, mr, talk to the government for us. This is pitiable."

My lady, the mother of five who lives in courtyard No 26 on al-Shafaqah [Compassion] Street which branches from al-Rahmah [mercy] Street in al-Mujawirun graveyard in Cairo, here I am writing on your behalf and "talking to the government" despite my abysmal failure to find myself an apartment, even a small apartment, in Cairo.

[See photographs on following pages]



Our house is a small room, our garden is a graveyard, our neighbors are the mute dead.



Clotheslines circle the graves



Technology shows up in al-Mujawirun cemetery



At edge of cemetery, a water well; the pail is all rusted



Me, my grandson and the grave. Generations raised on poverty



Empty grave publicized by brokers for rent

How sweet sleep is amidst the silence of the graves



CONSTRUCTION, DEVELOPMENT WORK IN NEW CITY DISCUSSED

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 25 Mar 80 p 7

[Article by Sabri 'Afifi: "From New Cities: Construction of 5,000 Apartments in al-'Amiriyah Before June; You Can Buy International Michelin Tires From New City"]

[Text] It has been decided to start building the first residential quarter in the new city of al-'Amiriyah before 8 June 1980. The quarter will include 5,000 units of low-income, middle-income and above middle-income housing, half of which will be allocated for the owners of industrial projects in the city.

This has been stated by Engineer Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, the minister of development, who has said that the first residential quarter has been planned over an area of 3.6 million square meters and that five feddans have been set aside for building a training center for construction work and other vocations. The 5-kilometer long main street in the city will be paved by the end of next April.

Water and Electricity

Engineer 'Abd-al-'Aziz Hilmi, the chairman of the city development agency, has said that work has started to build the 28-kilometer long main water pipeline in order to supply the city with water from the Dalil Maryut canal. Work is also in progress to build the filtration plant at Kilometer 40 on the desert road at costs amounting to 19 million pounds and to build a power plant with a capacity of 10 megawatts to supply the city with electricity. This plant will go into operation at the beginning of 1981.

A total of one million square meters of land in the first residential area will be offered for sale to the citizens and to the owners of investment projects before the end of this year so that they may build their houses on them.

International Factories

The city development agency has received a number of offers from international firms to build industrial projects in the city, foremost of which are

offers to build a Michelin plant for the production of rubber tires, food and drug plants and storage facilities.

The city is served by al-Dakhilah sea port and by the international al-Hawwariyah airport.

Contracts To Award Ownership of 10 Ramadan Apartments

At the beginning of next April, Engineer Hasaballah al-Kafrawi, the minister of development and new communities, will sign the contracts awarding the ownership of the apartments in 10 Ramadan Town. The populating of the first new city in Egypt will thus start.

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COOPERATIVE HOUSING PROJECTS, PROBLEMS EXAMINED

Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 25 Mar 80 p 7

[Article by 'Abd-al-Karim Salim and Ahmad Gharib: "Frank Dialogue With Chairman of Housing Cooperatives; Cooperative House for Needy; Lot-Casting Within Narrowest Limits; 6,400 New Apartments To Be Distributed by Authority This Year"]

[Text] The loans allocated for cooperative housing have risen by leaps from 8 million pounds in 1978 to 35 millions last year and to 75 million pounds this year.

The use of these loans to construct cooperative houses requires investments that amount to 120 million pounds, a sum which can finance the construction of 20,000 new apartments.

These loans have been included in the budget of the Construction and Housing Cooperatives Authority so that it may build its housing projects and may finance the projects of the housing cooperatives in the governorates and the universities [sic].

The cooperative loans have jumped to this large figure because cooperative housing is the fundamental solution to the housing crisis in Egypt.

How can full justice be achieved so that the housing units may be given to those who deserve them?

How can the Construction Cooperatives Authority exercise its control over the cooperatives to prevent deviations in the use of loans and the enrichment of a small number of people, especially since the state will shoulder as of the beginning of this year 6.7 million pounds in interest rate differences, considering that the authority borrows from the banks at an interest rate of nine percent and advances to the housing cooperatives loans at a small interest rate of three percent to be repaid over a period of 30 years.

Engineer 'Abd-al-Rahman Labib, the chairman of the Construction and Housing Cooperatives Authority answers these two questions and adds numerous explanations.

Labib has asserted that the authority is now giving the example in building cooperative houses and is exerting real efforts to provide loans to the housing cooperatives. This is something that has led to bringing down the market prices of lands and of houses offered for sale.

Labib also said that the authority selects the most suitable bids for building the cooperative housing projects and that it follows up the work of the cooperatives' contracting firms.

He also said that the authority will complete in a few months the construction of 6,400 new apartments which will be distributed in succession until next December.

He asserted that the cooperative houses will be given to those who need housing and that it will resort to lot-drawing among the applicants within the narrowest limits.

Delivering Houses in April

Engineer 'Abd-al-Rahman Labib focused during the dialogue on several points:

The Construction and Housing Cooperatives Authority will deliver 330 low-income and middle-income apartments in al-Jabal al-Ahmar at the beginning of the coming month of April.

A total of 600 middle-income apartments in al-Basatin area of al-Ma'adi, 220 new apartments in Shubta, 180 apartments in Rabi'ah al-'Adawiyah area in Nasr City, 300 apartments in al-'Abbasiyah, 300 housing units in Heliopolis and 5,000 housing units in al-Wafa' Wa al-Amal area at the beginning of next December.

The authority is currently building 240 apartments in Marsa Matruh, 4,000 housing units in Gizah, 7,300 apartments in Port Said and 3,000 new apartments in Alexandria. The distribution of these apartments will start as of the end of this year.

Total of 2,064 Apartments in Nasr City

An invitation has been offered for bids to build 2,064 new housing units in an area of 30 feddans along Africa Street in Nasr City.

Total of 8,300 Apartments for Saqr Quraysh

The authority has completed the drawings and architectural blueprints for the construction of 8,300 apartments for the Saqr Quraysh [Hawk of Quraysh] Association in Nasr City, in addition to 1,400 apartments to be built next to the Sheraton in Heliopolis.

Total of 47,000 New Apartments

The authority has prepared housing projects valued at 240 million pounds for the construction of 47,000 low and middle-income housing units within 3 years. The cooperatives will participate with the authority in building units in the new towns and in the universities within the framework of new projects in the governorates.

Instead of Villas

Engineer Labib also said:

The authority has decided to abolish the financing for villas and to confine it to collective housing projects that include a large number of housing units of which one unit is allocated for every member of a cooperative.

Increasing Cooperative Loans

'Abd-al-Rahman Labib further said that the cooperative housing loans amount to 75 million pounds to be repaid over a period of 30 years at an interest rate of three percent and with a three-year period of grace. The state shoulders an expense of 6.7 million pounds annually to make up for the difference in the interest rate that the authority pays to the banks from which it borrows--a rate that reaches nine percent.

The total value of the interest rate difference throughout the period of repayment for the unit amounts to 6,000 pounds per unit, a sum equal to the loan given for an apartment. This is in addition to providing land at lower prices than those of the market and to abolishing the administrative costs and land profits.

Engineer 'Abd-al-Rahman Habib added that the big projects implemented by the authority and the cooperatives are offered for general bids so as to get the best prices and to select (good) construction standards in order to facilitate cooperative housing.

Ownership Guarantees

The state has, in addition to these facilities, formulated guarantees to see that the units get owned by those who deserve them and that the owner, his wife or his under-age children do not have other housing, be it owned or rented, with the exception of summer or winter cottages.

Five-Year Priority

Engineer 'Abd-al-Rahman Labib asserted that the authority has drawn up a system of priority for ownership which gives top priority to married couples, to those transferred from one city to another city where the authority and the cooperatives are building housing projects, to those returning from

abroad, to those on missions [or scholarships] abroad and to those who have lived in collapsing houses and have been evicted from them administratively.

A priority of 5 years, beginning in 1975, has been given to these categories in order to realize full justice. For example, a person married in January 1975 has priority over another person married in February of the same year. Thus, the system of lot-casting has been done away with, except within the narrowest limits when those deserving the units meet the same conditions and have been waiting for the same period.

New Information Agency

Labib said that to provide more guarantees, an information agency was recently set up in the authority from among upright and capable elements of good reputation to make sure that the conditions are correct and that the applicants have no other apartments.

Three months after formation of the agency, it has become evident that more than 50 percent of the applicants do not meet the conditions [to be given ownership of an apartment]. The cooperative housing bill permits the confiscation of an apartment if it is proven that the information provided in the ownership form is not true.

In case an applicant gets an apartment and then it becomes clear that he has another apartment, the monies paid will be confiscated and the apartment taken back.

Labib also said that the new bill stipulates that the apartment cannot be sold or leased until after 20 years and then only to blood relatives twice removed at the most.

Prosecution Investigating Eight Associations

Labib added that the authority supervises and makes periodic and surprise inspections to 1,400 housing cooperatives to make sure of the soundness of the financial and administrative measures taken by a cooperative's board of directors.

In case it is suspected, as a result of examination or of complaints, that there are deviations, an investigation is conducted with the board of directors. In case an accusation is proven, the delinquent cooperatives are referred to the public property prosecution. Eight cooperatives that were proven delinquent have been referred to the prosecution.

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RETIRED OFFICER RECOUNTS EXPERIENCE IN FIGHTING COMMUNISM

Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 29 Mar 80 p 5

[Interview with Retired Maj Gen Hasan al-Musaylihi, Former Head of General Intelligence Section for Control of Communism, by Nabil Abazah; "Man Who Spent 30 Years Fighting Communism Tells His Story; Story of Communism in Egypt; Why Were Orders Issued for Arrest of 1,000 Communists in 1958 and Why Was It Then Decided To Release Them Before Khrushchev's Visit?"]

[Text] The telephone rang at the office of the head of the General Intelligence Section for the Control of Communism. Hasan al-Musaylihi lifted the receiver and said "Hello, who is it?"

This is President 'Abd-al-Nasir's office. The president wants to see you at Manehiyat al-Bakri immediately.

Yes, sir.

At 0200 on 14 November 1958, Hasan al-Musaylihi entered President 'Abd-al-Nasir's residence.

President 'Abd-al-Nasir asked: "What is the number of the communists in Egypt?"

Al-Musaylihi said: "Nearly 12,000 communists who have infiltrated sensitive positions, such as the media and the army."

'Abd-al-Nasir said: "And what is your opinion of the situation?"

Al-Musaylihi answered: "It is my opinion that the situation is serious, Mr President. If we leave them alone, there will be danger for the country and the revolution. They may even succeed in toppling the government. So why don't we have them for lunch before they eat us for dinner?"

After deliberation and discussion, President Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir ordered the arrest of all the communists in Egypt.

On the last night of December 1958, the biggest campaign of arrests against the communists started and nearly 1,000 communist leaders were arrested. Subsequent campaigns then followed.

[Question] (I said to Retired Maj Gen Hanan al-Musaylihi who has spent all [sic] his life as a police officer in the General Intelligence Section for the Control of Communism and who has come to know communism and the communists during his life:) Was there a real danger from the communists that made it necessary to arrest them in 1958?

[Answer] (The number one expert on communism in Egypt said:) Absolutely. Had they not been arrested, Egypt's history could have perhaps changed. The communists infiltrated the press and the information media and their activities reached towns and villages that had not been reached before. Whereas the communist activity had been earlier confined to university students, this activity extended at the time to the students of secondary institutes and schools. The age of those recruited for the secret cells dropped to 18 years. Officials of the communist embassies were having open and unreserved contacts with the Egyptian communists and were supplying them with money and propaganda means. Meanwhile, there wasn't in the political arena any intellectual or propaganda force to counter this activity.

(Al-Musaylihi added) It is enough to tell you that the number of communists amounted at the time to nearly 12,000 and that the Bolshevik vanguards who staged the red revolution in Russia in 1917 numbered no more than 10,000 individuals in a country with a population of millions.

[Question] Why weren't the communists arrested on the same day in which you met with President 'Abd-al-Nasir?

[Answer] The agreement we reached was to arrest them on 25 December 1958 while President 'Abd-al-Nasir was delivering his speech in Port Said and that the president would accuse them of lackeyhood and treason. But the date was postponed to the last night of December.

[Question] On the basis of your experiences with communism, are all the communists agents?

[Answer] It is my opinion that they are truly so, or at least the leaderships and 90 percent of the members. The cases I arrested should have been tried not as communist cases but as cases of espionage and of providing information to a foreign country.

In a well-known case, for example, we found out that orders had been issued by the leadership to every member to write down information in a notebook on the quarters in which he lived. This information was presented to the higher leadership which in turn supplied it to Moscow. It was also proven that the communist organizations were financed from abroad. In the case of the (H. D. T. U.) Organization, for example, we seized a notebook

with the budget written in it by hand and it proved to us that the financing came from the Soviet Union's embassy. This means that the communists gather information about the country in return for a wage from a foreign circle. This is exactly what any traitorous spy does to his country.

Moreover, communism entered Egypt on the hands of Jewish, anarchist and mercenary agents of international communism, such as Rosenthal, Antoine Marun, a Lebanese who had been trained in Moscow, and Henry (Coryel) who was proven to be a Soviet spy and who remained in contact with the communist organizations in Egypt until he was finally killed in Italy.

[Question] But how do the communists succeed in their plan despite their small numbers?

[Answer] By fraternizing and establishing contacts with the other national forces to form a single front including the revolutionaries, the anarchists and the zealots who have no education and no policy. This group works in one field and for one goal, namely communism. The communists always call such a front the united national front because their declared goal is a national goal that conceals behind it their true goal and that gives them a false facade. When this group succeeds in attaining the goal, it turns against the weakest faction in the front and then against another and another faction until it achieves sole control in the entire field. This group then declares its communism and invites the Soviet military forces to the country. If we apply this theory to Afghanistan, Yemen and the communist countries in Europe, we would find that communism has come by way of the united national front.

[Question] It is said that the communist organizations are numerous and divided. Is this true?

[Answer] These divisions and this multiplicity of organizations are nothing but a theatrical meant to allow each organization to work in a special environment and a certain circle and with a different policy in order to be able to recruit the largest number of people from the various groups. Some of the organizations have adopted the slogan of social reform while disregarding the national goal and communist propaganda among the workers. Others have adopted the slogan of having only workers and craftsmen belonging to the organization and others have decided to rely on the intellectuals while letting other organizations take care of the social issue and of the socialist revolution. Thus, the multiplicity of organizations is some sort of work distribution and nothing else.

[Question] Have these organizations united with each other at times?

[Answer] Yes, this is true. The biggest union was formed on 8 January 1958. On that day, all the communists declared the formation of the Egyptian Communist Party. I let this party work until I was able to kill it from within. Modern printing equipment imported for the party from abroad was stolen and

this theft caused panic in the party and each organization lost confidence in the other organization and accused it of being an agent of the police. Thus the Communist Party splintered into numerous organizations on 30 June 1958.

[Question] How do these organizations operate and how do they infiltrate the mind of the youth?

[Answer] The method of recruiting the youth varies according to their work and education. The method of recruiting a worker is different from that of recruiting an intellectual, a farmer and so forth. Generally, they start by studying the psychology of the recruit and then luring him by lecturing him secretly and ambiguously on a subject considered one of the inlets or initial levels of understanding the Marxist theory, such as the subject of evolution, creation of the universe and the development of societies. They then raise the level of what they tell him little by little--and always in complete secrecy. As a result, he gets the impression that what he has been told is an important secret with which he has been entrusted exclusively. This is in addition to the fact that the recruit views his instructor with sanctification. Consequently, the recruit slips and gets involved further and further until he reaches the point of no return.

(Going with his memory to the communist "bagy" in the past, Hasan al-Musaylihi adds:)

I will recount to you an anecdote that occurred in front of me accidentally and that demonstrates to you how the communists approach the individual they want to recruit.

The conversation in the tram between the communist and the worker began very ordinarily about the worker's place of work and the type of his work. It materialized that the worker was a glass blower at Yasin's Glass Factory. The communist asked the worker about his salary and the conversation developed gradually to include the number of tumblers the worker blows daily and the price of each tumbler. After simple calculation, the communist told the worker: "This means you work hard all day long and get one tenth the profit while the other nine tenths go to the factory owner's pocket." When the communist felt a response from the worker, he suddenly asked him: Where do you live? After learning his address, the communist asked him: Do you frequent any coffee shop? When the worker told him the place of his favorite coffee shop, the communist said: "This is surprising. I always frequent this coffee shop and I must seek you out and get together with you." This is how the first steps of recruiting a worker started.

(It seems that the discussion of this topic evokes numerous memories in the mind of Hasan al-Musaylihi because he went on to say:)

The cultural centers of the communist countries also engage in this activity. They select the suitable youth elements to enroll them in the various communist universities. This is in addition to the communist propaganda operation

of distributing free of charge pamphlets, magazines and books. For example, the (SOVIET) magazine is distributed free of charge, even though the Soviets know that it will turn into paper cones for [toasted watermelon or pumpkin] seeds. All the Soviets want is for the person who buys the seeds to unroll the cone and see a picture on life in the Soviet Union. Even if this person is illiterate, he will see a colored picture reflecting the happy life that the Soviet people live. If he is later exposed to recruitment efforts, the issue becomes easy because communism brings people a happy life.

[Question] What is the predominant characteristic of the communist's personality?

[Answer] If you study the communists profoundly, you will find in them complexes, deformities and family reasons that make them ready to accept communism. They are either agents or social malcontents. 'Abbas Mahmud al-'Aqqad was right when he described them as people with psychological deformities.

[Question] Does poverty have anything to do with this issue?

[Answer] Not at all. The sons of some rich aristocratic families were among the fiercest communists in Egypt. I can list to you a large number of them. It is also noticed that the leaders of the communist organizations in Egypt were from these aristocratic families.

[Question] Can communism be cured?

[Answer] Possible, but this depends on the degree of the communist's involvement, exactly as curing a patient depends on how far advanced his illness is. In truth, the leaders are not communists but agents who are difficult or impossible to cure. As for the misled overwhelming majority of the communists, the experiment I conducted proved that recovery can be certain. After arresting a large number of communists in 1959, I thought of reopening the path of salvation to many of them, especially since they had sent letters acknowledging that they were misled. I set up a "school" with all the components of an educational institute. I then selected a number of university professors, including Abu-Zahrah, al-'Umari, Jabir 'Abd-al-Rahman and Rif'at al-Mahjub, to give lectures dealing with the sound political concepts concerning our society and our tolerant traditions and with whatever realizes social peace. I took a group of 30 detainees who attended a four-month course and who were released immediately upon the completion of the lectures. We then selected another group for the same period and so on. Nearly 400 individuals graduated from this school and returned to the homeland as normal people who had nothing to do with communism. Not a single one of them has relapsed. However, the success of this experiment depends on the proper selection of the individual, of the materials taught and of the instructor.

(Haseen al-Muaylihi paused and said with regret:) But the experiment did not last long because the communist prisoners and detainees were released

on 2 April 1964 on the occasion of Khrushchev's visit to Cairo on 12 May 1964.

[Question] I have been told that you were opposed to the release of all the communists and that the decision was issued inspite of you?

[Answer] This is not at all true. I was behind the decision that was issued. I proposed to the minister of interior that the communists be released long enough before the visit because if Khrushchev had come and found the communists detained, he would have appealed to 'Abd-al-Nasir and 'Abd-al-Nasir would have accepted the appeal and ordered the release of the detainees. All this would have presented the matter as one of Russian orders or intervention in our domestic affairs. This is why I proposed their release before the visit so that we may not be surprised with the order for their release during the visit.

[Question] But the release of all the communists at once and their resumption of their work enabled the communist movement to regain strength. What is your opinion?

[Answer] This is true. But when I proposed that the communists be released, I made it a condition that they return to jobs that pose no danger. Unfortunately, the responsibility of approving the employment of the released was given to somebody who knew nothing about communism. He gave his approval without thought and the result was that the communists infiltrated the information media and the labor gatherings, which are sensitive and serious places. Their activity intensified and it was difficult to put an end to that activity when they were working in such positions.

[Question] It is said that the Soviet Union was behind your departure from the Section for Control of Communism. Is this true?

[Answer] This is completely true. After its influence escalated among the higher circles, the Soviet Embassy in Cairo requested my transfer from the Section for Control of Communism. This took place in 1964 when I was transferred to the Passports Authority. I was aware that the Russians considered me the number one enemy in Egypt. I procured, in my own way, a memorandum to this effect and gave it to the minister of interior at the time.

(He added very bitterly) The Russians did not remain silent after my transfer. I had even learned from some communists the exact day of my departure from the service long before it came, even though none of my colleagues thought that this would happen. I did actually leave the service after my three years of service with the rank of major general--which is a two-year term--i. e. in July 1967.

[Question] (I wanted to change the subject of conversation, so I said:) A final question: Why don't you put your long and deep experience with communism in a book so that the youth may benefit from it and may not be misled by the poisoned propaganda?

[Answer] (Maj Gen Hasan al-Musaylihi said with a pale smile on his lips:) This has actually happened and I have written a book containing all my long scientific and practical experience so that the youth may benefit from it. My purpose was not material profit. The book--"My Story With Communism"--was published a few months ago. But very unfortunately, it seems that the communists have not left me alone because there are communist fingers that prevent the book from reaching the people. This is exactly the same as what happened to Amin Shakir's book, "The Truth of Communism," which was published in 1953 and whose prelude was written by Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir. The communists collected the book from the market before it could reach the readers.

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FAMILY PLANNING INFORMATION CAMPAIGN CRITICIZED

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 29 Mar 80 p 3

[Article by Bahrah Mukhtar: "Once Again, and Before All Efforts Sink in Tumultuous Sea Called Population Explosion, Why Don't People Go, Despite Concerted Campaigns, to Family Planning Centers To Ask That Number of Their Children Be Limited; 2 Million Dollars To Spend on Birth Control Information Campaign, Where and How Do They Go?"]

[Text] The aim of the reports of AL-AHRAM--which continues today its campaign to rescue Egypt from the flood of the population explosion that threatens the livelihood of every home and the future of the sons of every family, and even threatens every ambitious development plan to realize the people's aspirations--is to emerge from the crisis to the right path and to extend the bridges of dialogue between all the parties concerned and the agencies that move the wheel of the work to check the flowing current of babies, of whom the Egyptian homes receive 30,000 every week.

To overcome the population explosion crisis, the authorities concerned have launched concerted propaganda and advertisement campaigns which have been opposed by counter campaigns of sharp criticism. How is this [sic] campaign proceeding and what is its goal? Is the information method currently followed the method that we really need for the family planning campaign? Where do the funds allocated for this campaign--even if they are still in the form of aid and have not come out of the state treasury--go and how have they been spent? Has the campaign realized all or part of its goals so far?

No family planning information campaign has been exposed to such a concerted and concentrated assault--as if it were a "campaign within a campaign"--like that to which the campaign launched on 1 March by the Information Authority and scheduled to end by the end of April, so that another campaign of another kind may start, has been exposed. The campaign has adopted the slogan of: "Look Around You, We Have a Population Growth Problem."

The sharp critical assault launched by the information leaderships that have expressed their opinions in the press or in the special information committees operating in the sphere of family planning has its objective viewpoint.

In its reports, AL-AHRAM started its call by warning against the advertisement campaign in particular. Moreover, AL-AHRAM has not forgotten to express its view on the need to focus on enlightenment in the village because the population problem "lies" there and "is exported" to the city in the form of internal migration.

While waiting for the full period of the campaign to end, an incident has surfaced to add to the problems the issue of "stealing ideas" and "art works" from a prominent creative artist, namely Salah 'Abd-al-Karim, the head of the decor section of the Fine Arts College. The use of the design of Salah's "motherhood and family" statue as the information campaign's symbol is an incident that has shaken the mainstays of the entire campaign.

A recent graduate of the Fine Arts College presented this design as if it were her own creation and won the first prize!

In view of this serious incident, a pause is necessary to examine all that is happening in the field of information insofar as family planning is concerned. The matter is not connected solely with an advertisement or an information campaign but with the population explosion crisis that is threatening all the development programs in Egypt.

The man in charge of this campaign is Dr Robert Higgins, the information expert in the Information, Education and Communication Unit of the Information Authority. It is true that there is an advisory committee but this committee has turned ultimately into a committee with no opinion. Because the U. S. expert is not familiar with Salah 'Abd-al-Karim's works, because he is "justified" in his admiration for the form and design of the symbol presented to him and because he did not consult with a group of specialized creative artists, he has fallen into this error. Here is where the responsibility lies for selecting the slogan which has been proven recently to have been copied "detail for detail."

Moreover, despite the presence of a so-called Executive Information Committee emanating from the Higher Information Committee which in turn emanates from the Higher Population and Family Planning Council which coordinates the efforts of the agencies working in this field, the campaign that has emerged from the Information, Education and Communication Unit of the Information Agency was only conveyed to the Executive Committee and none of the committee's members had been consulted on the details of the campaign even though this is the legitimate committee which must coordinate the efforts of the various agencies that are to take part in this campaign.

In an interview with Dr Robert Higgins, the official in charge of the Information Authority's campaign, he told me--and this is his opinion--that the campaign has succeeded. It has distributed millions of pamphlets that explain the various kinds of birth control means.

Dr Higgins then added: All the figures concerning the population problem are repeatedly broadcast by the radio and television. He also said that he visited a health unit in one of al-Sharqiyah villages and that a physician told him that he had not been aware that the population problem was of such dimensions!

He also said that he will distribute matchbooks bearing the campaign's slogan of "look around you, we have a population growth problem." The matchbook also says that more than 30,000 babies are born every week.

An information specialist has said to me: Why are the matchbooks distributed free of charge? Whoever gets a number of these books for distribution will keep them for himself and will not distribute them. The basic goal of this campaign is extensive dissemination. Why shouldn't the slogan be printed on matchboxes that are purchased by the people like ordinary matchboxes. People have to buy matches every day. By simple mathematics, this proposal "will save" the campaign the monies spent on the "information matchbooks" or will reduce their costs, if they are necessary.

Dr Higgins' ideas are numerous and include the idea of distributing "samples" of birth control means through the information centers in the governorates so as to evoke the people's interest in them. He said that this is like distributing [free] "samples" of a new brand of cigarettes that is to be marketed!

It seems that most of the ideas are based on the "advertisement thinking" that is different from the "information thinking" needed by the family planning campaigns.

The appearance of the advertisements concerning family planning in between the various segments of the radio and television programs will not send people rushing to the family planning centers and no man will take a decision to plan his family [as a result of these advertisements] because the phase of decision making must be preceded by several phases to familiarize the people with the population problem.

The people have learned that "we have a population growth problem." This has been proven by the national fertility research made by the Mobilization and Statistics Agency which has confirmed that 87 percent of the people "are aware." But this doesn't mean that the people will head for the family planning centers, which is what is required now.

This campaign will not end, as already announced, before the end of April when a new campaign will start, according to the decision made by the Information Authority. But in the latest meeting of the Higher Population and Family Planning Council it was decided that a campaign will start next July and that this campaign must take into account in its plan the need to evaluate what has happened and to avoid the gaps. Despite the presence of a number of studies on the people's inclinations insofar as family planning

is concerned and on the information means that are effective among the people, the Information Unit of the Information Authority will come up shortly with the result of such a study that it is preparing currently. This urges this report to point out that the Information Authority has had at its disposal the research conducted by Dr Muhyi-al-Din Khattab, the official in charge of the Delta Research Center for Social and Economic Studies. The Cairo Society [sic] had assigned Dr Khattab to conduct the study which reveals numerous facts on the family planning tendencies of the people in Cairo in particular and on the information means to be followed--means that should be determined in light of the outcome of the research. This study, conducted among 1,000 persons, has proven that 70 percent of the women and 30 percent of the men prefer a small family with two to three children and are opposed to big families with five or more children. Forty two percent of Cairo's population, according to the study sample, consider that two children as the ideal and 48 percent consider three children as the ideal.

Another proven fact is that the question of "boy" or "girl" has been settled and that there is a moderate preference for boys--a preference that is not as strong as that present in many other countries. Balance between boys and girls is considered a much less significant question to Cairo's population than that of the number of children.

It seems that the desire to form a small family is predominant because 92 percent [of those sampled] enumerate the benefits of a small family whereas less than 10 percent believe that there are advantages in a big family. In Cairo, where problems are numerous and awareness is intensifying, the effects of the economic factor have appeared clearly because the aspiration of the current Egyptian family to provide its children with a high standard of health and education urges the formation of a small family.

Cairo Is not Target

As to knowing how to plan a family, it has been proven that this knowledge is widespread in the poor quarters, in the low-income areas, the middle-income areas and, naturally, among the educated.

This fact points out that launching information or advertisement campaigns in the city is not the goal.

The study has also proven that birth-control pills are known at the broadest level, 96 percent, that the loop is known among 59 percent and that male prophylactics are known among 27 percent. Less than five percent mentioned (foam) pills and other means of contraception. It has also been proven that 71 percent of those who avoid the pill know how to use it and that two thirds of the people know one means or another and "believe" that they know how to use it correctly.

(Perhaps what the city of Cairo needs is different education on the means of birth control and the method of their use).

The study has also proven that all know the centers, sources and means of family planning and that the pill is still the queen of contraceptives, with 60 percent preferring it while 10 percent prefer the loop and seven percent prefer sterilization of women.

We thus find that there are numerous studies that reveal the people's tendencies and the results of these studies must be used as a guide for any family-planning campaign.

Here, we must discuss the serious nature of the dramatic programs dealing with the population problem that have been broadcast by the radio. It was not necessary to attach to those programs the words "with the greetings of the Information Authority or the Information Unit" so that the listener may not feel a direct influence but the indirect effect that dramatic programs produce. Moreover, the live radio and television programs that are heard and seen by millions in the various parts of the republic must be followed by hearing and viewing clubs [sic] so that the desired effect may be realized.

The "reactions" to the advertisement campaign have been numerous. For example, the Future Family Society in a popular quarter of Cairo set up a big pavilion and people came to listen to a symposium on family planning. The U. S. expert was also present. It so happened that clamor erupted during the discussion and the U. S. expert asked about the reason. They told him that the figures about the census and about the population growth [do not] excite them and do not interest them. Then silence prevailed when the subject of discussion changed and the expert again asked: Why the silence? He was told because the lecturer was talking about the effect of family on the family's health.

There is another anecdote, for which the U. S. expert is not the one responsible this time. A film has been produced on family planning in the countryside. The film contains a scene where a question is addressed to a student in an Egyptian village and it sounds as if (the student) is the writer of the dialogue and of the scenario. The question is: "What is the meaning of family planning?" The student answers: "Good manners, discipline in the family and respect for parents." The little student's answer is not wrong.

The mistake lies in the method of asking the question--a method that is faulty by all scientific criteria.

First, getting an answer for this question requires a totally different formula that is known to those who conduct scientific studies.

Second, why was this question addressed to a child?

After all this, we say that the Egyptian village knows nothing about family planning!

Another Incident

In the international symposium on population and family planning, one of the guest lecturers at the symposium said: "The taxpayers in my country ask about the aid that we advance to you and about how it is spent." What he meant was: Why the failure in reducing the birth rates despite all these resources? The official population experts immediately confronted him with their answers.

However, that incident reminds us of the importance of knowing the accounts of the information campaign and knowing how much has been spent. What has been spent for newspaper and magazine advertisements has amounted to 75,000 dollars. It is well-known that 2 million dollars are allocated initially for this campaign.

The question is: Who is responsible for spending the aid monies?

Dr Robert Higgins, the U. S. information expert, has told me: This initial rapid advertisement campaign has been necessary. I cannot wait for the results of a long-term campaign by way of personal interviews. It requires a long life. He should have also said that it requires greater efforts.

The information campaigns of the international information experts may have succeeded in other developing countries. But Egypt has a distinct character and lives under new conditions of economic and social changes.

But once again, we should not forget in the middle of the tumultuous sea of the population explosion crisis the incident of stealing the campaign's symbol from Salah 'Abd-al-Karim's motherhood statue.

8494

CSO: 4802

SECRET CONTACTS TO SOLVE HOSTAGE CRISIS DISCUSSED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 2 May 60 pp 36, 37

[Article by Hassan Hamadat "Peron's Friend Mediates Between Carter and Khomeyni: Phased Plan to Arouse Qom Against Tehran a: 'Weaken Bani-Sadr and Qotbaadeh. Tudeh Party Prevents Release of Hostages to Isolate Iran from West, Bring it into Soviet Sphere. Tudeh Secretary General Says: 'Holding of Hostages is to Sever Relations For Good Between Iran and United States'"]

[Text] It is clear that secret contacts between the United States and Iran increased after the announcement severing diplomatic relations between the two nations. The role of the mediators, secretly charged by Washington and Tehran to find a solution to the hostage crisis and to rescue Iran from the isolation which would convert it into a tasty morsel for the Russians, has been escalated.

The two intermediaries, who are undertaking one of the most difficult diplomatic tasks the modern history of international relations has ever known, are the exiled Argentine politician, Hector Villalon, and the French lawyer Christian Bourget. All mediation efforts and correspondence, which are happening now and which are attributed to diverse international parties, are in fact conducted through these two men, who continued to work in secrecy until their business was revealed by European, American and Iranian Jewish and communist circles (the communist Tudeh party).

When Sadeq Jotbaadeh visited Paris in the middle of last February, reports reached radio stations "Europe Number One" and "Luxembourg" that the foreign minister of Iran met on Friday, 15 February, with White House chief of staff Hamilton Jordan at the home of Hector Villalon, in the presence of lawyer Christian Bourget. However, the Iranian minister quickly issued a denial of this report and ascribed it to a French, Jewish communist lawyer of Moroccan origin, Nouri Albala. Since that date, the spotlight has been turned on the role of these two intermediaries, but the information published about their activities has been far from factual and even involves them in a plan aimed at Iran's isolation.

How would the "isolation" plan be carried out, and what is Bourget and Villalon's position in the framework of the plan?

Available confirmed information indicates that the Iranian communist Tudeh Party is far more powerful than people imagine, in addition to its being the leading party in terms of internal organization and structure. This party is not yet capable of seizing power, but it has been successful to some degree in causing the Iranian leadership in Qom to adopt positions desired by the communists. The Tudeh Party's positions today are to play the game of internal inconsistencies, create a hostile atmosphere between Tehran and Qom, and compel the latter more and more to rely on a policy of alienation, not just between Iran and the United States, but also with the Western world as a whole, and with the Arab states directly.

The matter of seizing the American embassy was planned by this party. This began to come to light recently, especially when the revolution command council insisted on transferring the hostages from student control to the lawful government. In this regard, a European personality who was an eyewitness at the American embassy building in Tehran, says that nearly 80 percent of the students approved of the transfer, but the hardcore remainder were communists who refused to accept a democratic process in the decision to hand over the hostages. They appealed to the Imam, threatening to commit suicide if the hostages were transferred from the embassy. The communists thereby wanted to complicate Khomeyni's position, and, in a sense, to up the ante for him.

The European source, who witnessed the negotiations with the students, told me that Imam Khomeyni decided that day not to listen to the students. He put forward, as a solution to the problem, a proposal providing that the international investigatory committee, which was in Tehran, issue a statement to the effect that it had seen the effects of the shah's regime and that this regime's actions could not have occurred were it not for the support given to the irresponsible ruler by his American allies. In exchange for that, the Imam would announce that he would order that the hostages be turned over to the official authorities, no matter what the reaction of the minority of students was.

This information was conveyed to Washington. It approved and consented to the condemnation being issued in a statement by the investigatory committee before it left Tehran. However, the committee rejected Khomeyni's proposal to condemn the United States, despite intensive attempts at persuasion by Gorbzadeh, Habibi, a member of the revolutionary council, and the two secret intermediaries, Villalon and Bourget.

The argument of some committee members to justify their position was that they were not convinced that Khomeyni would keep his promise. On the other hand, they were unwilling to condemn the United States, preferring that this condemnation be issued through self-criticism on the part of Washington.

The committee members preferred that the pledge be issued directly by the Imam during a meeting the committee would hold with him in Qom, providing that a date for the meeting be set in advance, including its time and agenda.

Members of the revolutionary council and the two intermediaries replied to them that these conditions were impossible and degrading to Imam Khomeini. The committee's position did not change. It left Tehran under well-known circumstances. It is worth noting that the Algerian and Syrian members of the committee were very much in favor of the Imam's plan, but they stuck with the committee whose members had previously agreed among themselves that decisions should only be adopted unanimously. Thus it was difficult for this committee to play a successful role in negotiations of this type.

Thus, the Imam was in a position to thwart the effectiveness of the ploys directed against him by the communist students, but the committee did not make it easy for him to do, and the crisis turned even faster in a vicious circle.

As a result of that, the students' role was strengthened, especially the communists, and behind them the Tudeh Party, at the expense of increasing the complexity of the constitutional, political leadership's position, represented by Bani-Sadr and Qotbzadeh.

These two men are the subject of concentrated media and political attacks by the Tudeh Party, accusing them of being "in the pay of American imperialism." At the same time, this party declared its "adherence to Imam Khomeini's course." This is also a part of the ploy to arouse ties between Tehran and Qom.

The fact is that the communists are practicing the cleverest maneuvers in the midst of the excitement of the general parliamentary elections to be held next month. We see the Tudeh Party doing its best to weaken Bani-Sadr, Qotbzadeh and associates, so that the new parliamentary majority will be extremist. Aware of the internal Iranian political workings, they know full well that Qom vehemently opposes the growth of power centers within the framework of the Islamic revolution. The author of this idea is Imam Ahmad Khomeini, son of the revolution's leader, and the man who has undoubtedly become the one who runs the show in Qom, now that his father's health has worsened.

If American politicians today have maneuvers connected with American elections, so also do Iranian politicians have their election maneuvers. The case of the hostages is in fact an element of these maneuvers. The communists understand this fact; they have continued to perfect the art of using its factors. They play on the inconsistencies, in order to tip the scale of extremism and hardline-policy against moderation, which is not incompatible with the principles of the Khomeini revolution.

Here it must be pointed out that Imam Khomeyni has not initiated severing relations with the United States, despite his statement to visitors, when America severed diplomatic relations: "We have banished Salan from our country." It is well known that the Imam seldom receives anyone these days. He has only received three members of the revolutionary council, Ayatollah Behrabi, Bani-Sadr and Sadeq Golezadeh, in addition to his son Ahmad, the fourteenth member of the revolutionary council, who has been diligently at his father's side in Qom.

This moderation which Khomeyni has displayed, by not severing relations with the United States, does not mean, of course, that he has become an "American agent," the label which the communists have put on the president of the republic and the foreign minister.

Escalating the situation is a basic condition for the success of the election campaign in America, especially as regards Carter. The same holds true for the Iranian clerics. If the American president's demand for the release of the hostages is essential for his finding a way out of the American election predicament and his return to the White House, so is an American acknowledgment of Washington's responsibility for the shah's regime considered to be a condition for a successful election campaign in Iran.

Within this framework, we must understand the significance of the message sent by Carter to Khomeyni and which the American administration later denied.

What is the truth of this message? Was it fictitious or real?

This message was in fact sent from President Carter to Imam Khomeyni. Hector Villalon and Christian Bourget conveyed it. The letter contained an appeal to hand over the hostages, in addition to the text which contained a kind of American apology. When Imam Ahmad Khomeyni distributed the text of the American message, he deleted the part pertaining to the hostages, in view of the fact that this matter did not interest him, and published the remaining part. The American administration issued a denial, saying that it had not sent any message of this kind. After the two intermediaries, Villalon and Bourget, returned to Paris, they received a message, the following Thursday morning, from the American secretary of state. It explained that denying the report of the previous letter was due to the fact it was not published in its entirety, since the section related to the hostages was deleted. This is the difficulty which would affect President Carter's election. It was possible for me to look at this letter with my own eyes the evening of that same day. With the denial of the message, the Iranians' hard line increased and, on the other hand, the Americans severed relations with Iran.

This is what the Soviet Union wants and what the Tudeh party works for. The Soviets want alienation to occur between Iran and the Western world.

The latter believes that severing relations with Iran will lead to its isolation. The truth is that the West would be isolating itself from Iran, and would be facilitating its fall into the Soviet grip forever!

This is not merely unfounded speculation or analysis. It is sufficient for us to observe the positions and statements of the Iranian communist party and the newspaper HARIK, The latter has shifted from a positive of obedient follower of the revolution to one of critic who pursues speculation and keeps raising the ante. Reference must certainly be made to the statement of the Tudeh party's secretary general, Nureddin Kianuri, to the French newspaper LA PUEDE, published on Friday the 15th. It MOND asked him: "Why continue to hold the hostages, as long as you say that the United States cannot deliver the shah?"

The communist leader replied: "Our holding the hostages means that we are obstructing any improvement in relations between Iran and the United States, a matter which some Iranian politicians desire."

This statement, the first of its kind in terms of candor and clarity, confirms that the communists regard the hostages as a means to create a crisis with the West and to isolate Iran from the West, preparatory to drawing it into the Soviet sphere. Others, beginning with Imam Khomeyni to the last of his followers, regard the hostage question, as a means to obtain the shah's return or to extract an American apology, and, consequently, to humble the United States.

The difference between the two concepts is very clear. The stage reached by the Iranian-American crisis makes it clear that the [communist] concept, and the frightening plan behind it, is the one effectively achieving its objectives.

This plan, which is under way internally, is making use of movements and propaganda instigated by Jews and communists in Western Europe and the United States.

The Jews, through their domination of the media, are causing public opinion to be antagonistic toward everything having to do with Iran and the Iranian revolution, exploiting the issue of Islamic revival as a threat to the West, in terms of its civilization, economy, religion and values.

As for the European communists, their position is well known to the Khomeyni regime and the Tudeh party.

From this perspective, we should take note of the media campaign launched by the Western press against the two intermediaries, Villalon and Bourget, especially since they are the only serious intermediaries [trying] to solve this crisis.

Hector Villalon is a prominent Argentine leader and one of the foremost leaders of the Peronist movement. He was very close to General Peron and his former wife, Eva Peron. However, he had differences with the second wife, Isabelia, who became president of Argentina after Peron's death in 1976. The cause of the dispute was her assistance to Jorge Kaga, known for his ties with the American CIA. Villalon, who is 50 years old, was Peron's ambassador plenipotentiary to 'Abd al-Kasir, Boumedienne, Mao Tse-tung, Chou En-lai, Lin Bi Hung, Ho Chi Minh, General De Gaulle, Willy Brandt, Fidel Castro and other senior world leaders.

For three years, he soundly out the Iranian opposition and cemented his friendship with it, in view of his adoption of its policies and his defense of Iranian political prisoners. His first meeting with the Iranian opposition took place in the office of lawyer Christian Bourget, who has a long history of defending political prisoners and activists in the Third World.

One of the most prominent prisoners defended by Bourget was Archbishop Hilarion Capucci. From this evolved the relationship between Villalon and Capucci in Iran.

As a result of the attacks waged against these two men, Iranian President Bani-Sadr issued a statement, published by the world press:

"In view of the fact that some of the media have revealed the role of two persons, who have been exerting long and strenuous efforts for several months, which have led to achieving significant results toward peace and a peaceful solution to the current crisis, the Iranian Islamic government believes that it should publicly declare its recognition of these two persons' honesty and their zeal for humanitarian work. We are referring to Hector Villalon and Christian Bourget. On this occasion, we renew our absolute confidence in their integrity."

Among the group of charges levied against the two men was that Villalon "forged Carter's letter in an agreement with the Iranian government, and typed it himself on a typewriter in the Swiss embassy in Tehran." Apart from that, the world press applied itself to accusing Villalon of being an agent of American intelligence and an arms merchant, in addition to having arranged a meeting between Jordan and Gohzadeh.

I have obtained, through information obtained from the two men, a copy of a secret letter sent by the Jewish communist lawyer, Nouri Albala, via telex to the governor of the Iranian Markazi Bank, 'Ali Reza Nobari. He passed it on to President Bani-Sadr. In this letter, he accused Villalon of being connected with the Americans and the present dictatorship in Argentina. The evidence for that was that a member of the Argentine Ruling Junta, Admiral Masera met with Villalon in Paris on 9 April 1978. Albala ended the letter by saying that there were documents connected with the telex that he could not send through the Iranian embassy in Paris.

However, there is information indicating the Albala has an excellent relationship with the Iranian ambassador in Paris. The evidence is that the host entertained Albala on Sunday evening 11 April, at dinner in his home in the French capital.

We have also obtained a letter sent by Villalon himself to the French former minister of the interior, Christian Bonnet, dated 14 April, 1978, in which he states that the reason for his meeting with Adm Masera was to put pressure on him to introduce democratic reforms into the Argentine regime and to release the political prisoners there, including some Frenchmen.

lawyer Albala's office is considered the main source of the erroneous information which the European and American press has reported about the current negotiations between the Iranian and American governments.

All that confirms the extent of the effectiveness of actions being exerted on various levels to isolate Iran from all world except the Soviet world.

Hector Villalon told me, when I met him in Paris, speaking very bitterly, that he felt the absence of an Arab intermediary who could influence with the Americans. He said that the Arab world could play a basic role in solving this crisis which threatens the world.

If circumstances have revealed the names of Villalon and Bourget, the question remains whether there are other intermediaries whose names have not yet been revealed!

7005

CSO: 4902

CULTURAL REVOLUTION AGAINST STUDENTS DISCUSSED

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 2 May 80 p 35

[Article by Huda Al-Husayni: "Cultural Revolution Against Students in Iran! Beheshti Has Lost His Battle with Bani-Sadr, Hostages Still Controlled By Revolutionary Council"]

[Text] "Look, they are killing the students." The Farsi news agency began its report to us in this way about the clashes which occurred between the students and members of Hezb-Ollah. "More than 30 students were killed, especially in Mashad. The agency has contacted Tehran hospitals and learned that there were more than 350 wounded students, some of them not seriously. In Shiraz University, the regime's forces arrested 200 students, and 200 others were injured."

The agency has been silenced, which convinces observers that last week's crisis was the worst of the internal crises to which Iran has been subjected since Khomeyni's return from exile following the successful popular revolution.

It is clear that the students' tragedy will only end in their arrest and being silenced by force, and in ridding their heads of "satanic" thoughts.

The first merciless, bloody blow against the students was last August. Ayatollah Khomeyni was still living in Qom. He stood on the balcony of his modest home and said: "The left, they are Satan's children." With the speed of wind, this phrase of his reached Tehran. Members of Hezb-Ollah (Khomeyni's militia) attacked the universities and all the offices of Mojahedin-e Khalq (progressive Moslems) and Feda'i-ye Khalq (Marxist-Leninist). Violent clashes occurred. At that time, Ayatollah Taleqani was the students' only protector. He intervened with Khomeyni, who ordered the attacks stopped. Also at that time, Khomeyni realized that his powerful authority was not sufficient to crush the left, and he decided to postpone the day of reckoning.

Last September, Taleqani was snuffed out, and that day the left, including the Mojahedin and the Feda'ian, learned that they were to be disarmed and that the hour would come no matter how long a time.

During the Iranian new year celebration last March, Ayatollah Khomeyni delivered his expected message. No sooner had he finished delivering the last word of that speech, than the students, especially the leftists, laity and liberals, knew that the god of war had begun to move against them and that Khomeyni was ready to attack them. Khomeyni said in that message, "A radical revolution must be carried out in Iranian universities. Our universities must be purged of professors who received their university education in the West or in the East. The universities must put their faith in Islamic sciences. Islam is a rich ideology which does not need to be infused with other ideologies."

Perhaps Khomeyni knew that his calls and demands had only increased the growing rift between his followers and those who were cautiously watching the line which the revolution would take after its success. He wanted, in the name of Islam, to get rid of the latter segment which, despite its power and effectiveness, was smaller in number than the first segment.

Last Friday, zero hour sounded. During prayers in the Tehran mosque, Hajjatoleslam Khamene'i (who with Ayatollah Beheshti forms the basic pillar of the Islamic Republican Party) said: "Lenin's picture and communist slogans will not be raised in any university hall after today." Two hours later the College of Economics in Tehran was subjected to attack. Then, a popular storm was unleashed against Shiraz University, while the students were engaged in prayers. The cause of the attack was the university curricula's incompatibility with Islamic education. Everything went so rapidly that President Bani-Sadr could not grasp the meaning of the attack against the universities and students.

He ordered them shut down for two days. He then became critical, through a lead article in the newspaper AL-FIZH AL-ISLAMI, in which he accused the clerics of working against the revolution. This was all, like ashes under the fire. But Monday morning, Khomeyni stood on the balcony of his splendid home in north Tehran and confirmed that "university curricula must be changed and transformed into Islamic ones." No sooner had Ayatollah Beheshti, head of the Islamic Republican Party, heard his "fatwah" than he sent his religious followers to the bazaar, where they rounded up the children of the bazaar and furnished them with rocks, knives and clubs, demanding that they attack the students' offices in the universities, the students who "do not support Islam."

Moreover, and even now, the Islamic Republican Party has been unable to discover a way to make people forget the power of the students, especially the Mojahedineh and Feda'i-ye Khalq, who organized the revolution against the shah, who persevered in it, and who were therefore the ones who began this revolution, not the clerics and their followers.

Why has Beheshti adopted this strategy?

The Islamic Republican Party knows that merely giving an opportunity to these two organizations, instead of crushing them, would help them plant

their roots deepened among the people, especially since the Mojahedin-e Khalq, who call themselves orthodox Muslims, know how to overlay their Islamic language with progressive, liberal ideas, so as to rally the people around them.

On the other hand, members of the Feda'i-ye Khalq are better organized from the ideological standpoint. This helps them to coordinate matters in order to resist religious pressure against them. Also, the Feda'i-ye Khalq enjoy a large following, especially among educated middle classes.

The biggest thing that the Islamic Republican Party is aware of is that President Bani-Sadr almost succeeded in his plan to get the technocrat class to coalesce around him, in addition to liberals and the laity. Students and their professors make up the majority of these groups which must be struck down before the creation of the revolutionary assembly (parliament). Ayatollah Beheshti knows the West and its excellent tactical methods. For many years he was president of Hamburg University. His political interests are predominant over his religious interests. Beheshti came out a winner in the first electoral round. Then, Bani-Sadr's confirmation of election falsification, and his forming a committee to investigate the facts, will cause people to reject the party's threats. Furthermore, killing leftist students in the university will frighten their followers. Consequently, the fields of "victory" will be open for him in the second round of elections, which have so far been postponed twice without any new date being set.

In the midst of this tumult, President Bani-Sadr had to take a stand. They were waiting.

Bani-Sadr recognized that the Islamic Republican Party's attack on the students was directed against him. The Islamic Republican Party considers Bani-Sadr its number one enemy.

Some say that the liberal Bani-Sadr refuses first of all to be a victim without a price. Therefore, he is resisting. Time is running against the clerics; time is with him. If Bani-Sadr stands beside the students, the clerics will not hesitate to accuse him of working for communism. Bani-Sadr, by directing his warning at the leftist students in the universities, at the beginning of the battle, wanted those who are holding the hostages in the embassy to hear. He knows that the story has been long and that Iran is on the brink of the abyss, politically, economically and socially.

The Islamic Republican Party has attempted to increase the intensity of the disputes between Khomeyni and Bani-Sadr, but the latter is aware of the secret of Khomeyni's convolutions and has adopted it. Thus Beheshti has failed, especially when Khomeyni said on the 21st of this month that: "What the revolutionary council and the president of the republic said about cleansing the universities carries all my blessing and support."

When Bani-Sadr applied the label "cultural revolution" to what had occurred in the university, it confirmed for some that Bani-Sadr knows what he says and is looking ahead. Everyone remembers that the cultural revolution in China was started by the students. Its basis was protest over the "heavy coating" of communist ideology which they studied in the universities.

Bani-Sadr knows that everyone now will increase efforts to achieve Khomeyni's appeal to "Islamicize culture," but no one knows what this means. He has raised the idea of the "cultural revolution" and firmly intends to prepare the true foundation which will know how to understand it. Therefore, he has cautiously begun to achieve his idea. On 21 April, he received Khomeyni's support. Therefore, on the 22nd, over the radio, he released a statement on behalf of the students in which he said: "My brother students, I wish to tell you that political activity in the universities is permitted under the constitution. It is not the right of any faction to create difficulties which injure other university political factions."

Bani-Sadr added: "The new universities will enjoy freedom to make decisions. Student organizations elected by students will supervise existing activities. The university must always remain a place for free debate, creativity and scientific progress."

In a telephone conversation that I had with "'Ali", one of the members of Feda'i-ye Khalq and a student at Tehran University, he told me: "They want to kill us because we remember them. We are the ones who forced them to side with us against the shah. They have also executed every witness to their past; now they want to execute us."

7005

CSO: 4902

MEASURES INTENDED TO IMPROVE ECONOMY

Lower Bazaar Prices

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 13 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] Reliable and Moslem members of the merchant community of Tehran have written a letter addressed to Bani-Sadr, in which they reminded him that they are prepared to sell items in short supply to buyers at a five percent profit margin. Text of the merchant's letter is described below:

Reliable and Moslem members of Tehran merchant community are hereby prepared to wage an intensive war against all forms of price-gouging and hoarding in the current situation, until all goods in short supply are stocked at much more reasonable levels and can be offered for sale, insofar as possible, at a five percent margin of profit. And we appeal to the government, also, to provide the necessary cooperation in order to check hoarders.

A committee formed within the Ministry of Commerce with the participation of tradesmen and importers of small goods to see whether market shortages, which the aforesaid committee discovered to be contrived shortages, were, caused internally or abroad, has been presented to the merchant community under the direct supervision of the government.

Under the current, temporary conditions the state must provide the needed facilities for the importing of consumer goods by importers, tradesmen and individual dealers, thereby relieving the shortage of manufactured goods, which right now are in the warehouses of the hoarders, and [eventually] reducing prices as much as possible.

Let the eight individuals of the Executive Council of the Chamber of Iranian Trade, Industry and Mines whose faces are known to all, refrain completely from their customary practices; or else let the Chamber of Trade, Industry and Mines be completely dissolved, letting matters depend on sound, Moslem individuals under the direct supervision of the government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Provincial Banks

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 6 Apr 80 p 1

[Text] With the establishment of provincial banks by the governors general, all banks in the country, by order of the president of the Republic, must invest in all areas of production.

This order, along with the issuance of an announcement by the president of the Republic, was communicated to all the country's banks.

Text of the announcement is described below:

In execution of the Imam's message of 1 Farvardin [21 Mar], and with the objective of widening economic activity, increasing production and creating employment throughout the country,

1. The governors general are hereby responsible, according to the constitution, to form provincial banks. The first general session of the bank association in each province will convene within 15 days of this [announcement] date.
2. The bank high councils, including that of the Export Bank, are responsible for preparing themselves for, to mobilize with all manner of facilities and cooperation needed to accomplish their functions in this regard.
3. All banks in the country, such as specialized, commercial and provincial, are responsible as quickly as possible to:
 - a. provide easy credit and grant loans for all production levels in various areas;
 - b. cooperate with groups and cooperative organizations and bring production plans to the operating stage;
 - c. banks themselves, directly invest in production levels in various fields;
 - d. specialized banks are responsible, when asked by commercial and provincial banks, to loan their experts in examining and analyzing investment plans and provide every form of cooperation in this matter.
5. [as published] It is necessary for the banks to give preference to those investment plans, whether submitted by investment cooperatives or private parties, which create employment and use primary domestic resources.

This announcement is received as an official notice in a written order form and responsible officials must immediately put it into effect.

The Ministry of Finance, the governors general, the Central Bank of Iran, the high councils of the banks and their administrative authorities, are in charge of the responsibility of carrying out the above mentioned instructions.

With the same urgency with which this order was issued, all the banks of the country will soon begin to mobilize their abilities, their facilities and activities towards the encouragement of varied kinds of production.

With regard to the Imam Khomeini's message of 1 Farvardin, the overall objective behind such resolution, following the policy resolution previously adopted by the banks, is to create employment and to abolish all kinds of unemployment in the country, and to put into motion the economic wheels of the country.

Reactions to Sanctions

Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 13 Apr 80, p 5

[Text] As we celebrate the national occasion of the severing of political ties with America; as the economic war between Iran and America enters its drastic, final stages, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr has also announced, with respect to the economic problems we consider most immediate, that we are on a war footing, that we must occupy ourselves to the utmost with production and self-sufficiency, that there must be administrative frameworks for industry and agriculture.

But are the people prepared to accept this point of view?

And what is the specific environment needed in order to mobilize the masses in this connection?

The popular response to the appeal is affirmative. People say: "We are united to the bottom of our souls in sacrifice to break the chains of captivity to American imperialism. But a prerequisite for this task is a general program provided by officials.

The people of Iran are determined this time to cut short America's aggressive hand from the sacred economy and politics of revolutionary Iran, for ever. Carter and his collaborators in the ruling circles of America have also resolved to impose a shattering pressure on the Iranian economy by blocking the export of vital commodities and by continuing the freeze on Iranian foreign currency credits, to the breaking point. But neither the nation of Iran nor its government has sat by idle: they are prepared with all their might to render this American plan ineffective, to repeat once more the lesson taught to America by insurgent nations at other points in the world, notably Vietnam, and to do the work so that this time this fragile cloud of power might be swept forever into the dustbin of history.

Economic sanctions towards Iran actually began unofficially some months ago while world-consuming America tried in every way it could to slap down the Iranian Revolution, thinking it could make our people helpless. This war, which entered an intensive phase with the capture of America's spy-house, has taken on fresh dimensions with every passing day, and as many times as Carter's government has announced sanctions and postponed it, the embargo has spread further.

This embargo has taken shape in official and unofficial ways. For example, war insurance was established for vessels entering the Persian Gulf. This was the pretext for insuring Iranian goods at four times their value, an increase resulting in a rise in the cost of the goods and a decrease in the buying power of Iranian consumer.

Other steps taken by America include the demand that the countries of the European Common Market enter this conflict; Iran has also been subjected to pressure from that direction. But this American act has not succeeded yet. Because the countries carrying on trade with Iran and specially those who obtain oil from Iran -- for example Japan and Sweden -- will not participate in an economic embargo against Iran without the approval of the United Nations Organization. These countries, known well that every sort of economic pressure on Iran would mean cutting off the flow of oil.

However, since imperialism acts blindly when it loses its profits from a colonial country, we cannot consider the danger of American and its imperialist collaborators' threats completely unfounded. Therefore, our masses are preparing themselves to confront economic sanctions and every other aggression from America or her allies.

The imperialist government of America, by imposing economic pressure upon the Iranian people, wishes to break the stubborn resistance of the revolutionary masses against imperialism. However, the fighting people of Iran, have risen in order to foil the conspiracy. They will confront the economic embargo, but how and in what way? People are saying that they will reduce consumption to resist the economic embargo. At the same time, they believe that in order to cut off economic dependence on imperialism, it is necessary to set up specific programs to create self-sufficiency in the agricultural sector, that industry must be brought to the operating stage and human resources must be used in production. Also labor, workers and peasant councils must be set up to resist the economic embargo, reinforcing the battle against American imperialism from every side.

What Are People Saying?

Hushang Mohseni, owner of a household-goods store, on the subject of confronting America's economic embargo, says: "In my opinion, to confront the economic embargo, people must in the first place get into the habit of avoiding false expenditure, that is, to show some self-restraint from buying the means of amusement and adornment that capitalist America has imposed upon us. In the time of the deposed Shah, our country was a bazaar for the shoddy consumer goods of capitalist countries and certain classes of our country's people developed the habit of using such goods excessively. I believe, under present conditions, we must set aside the use of such goods. On the other hand, we must economize in the use of foodstuffs as much as possible, while restraining ourselves from hoarding them."

"At present, we are suffering from the 'anti-people' economic programs of the former regime. The puppet Pahlavi regime destroyed our agriculture. I for one remember that 15 years ago, the puppet Pahlavi regime, in order to make

us more dependent on American Imperialism, did not purchase rice produced by the farmers in the north, but instead imported rice from abroad. The Pahlavi regime, constantly talked about industrialization, and with that pretext drew the peasants to the cities and took agricultural production away from them. In the cities, the immigrant peasants resorted to ticket vending, cigarette selling and other nonproductive work. In short, the imperialist policy of America in Iran was to make us as dependent as possible. Now, in order to confront this dependence, we must turn our attention to productive work in the agricultural and industrial sectors. For example, we have 600,000 unemployed degree-holders in the country. The government could make use of this human work-force in the area of agricultural production. Fortunately we have vast lands and sufficient water resources, but an economic program is needed before these possibilities could be used. In my opinion, first we must develop farming, then industry could be accommodated, because a hungry nation more than anything else needs agricultural planning."

Councils Announce General Mobilization

On the subject of resisting the economic embargo, Hasan Mo'meni, an unemployed college graduate, believes that "the best way of meeting the economic embargo is for the government to announce a general mobilization. The masses of the people must, in my belief, have direct participation in their political and economic fate. This would be possible with the formation of councils at various levels. This would give the feeling among the masses that they had a direct share in the solution of economic questions. I believe the economic problems of the country could be solved. But the solution of economic problems is conditional upon the solution of political questions. If the masses know that the government is working for them and is with them and if they were to believe that they could share personally in the political and economic fate of their country, they would endure all kinds of scarcity in various areas and the American economic sanctions would not be a problem for them. I think that for the creation of a self-sufficient economy as opposed to a dependent and ailing economy, it is first necessary for us to open up new areas of production ourselves. Production necessities in the agricultural sector are land, labor and water, and these things do exist in the country. Production necessities in the industrial sector should also be investigated. In any event, a specific program must come into existence, in order to meet the economic embargo and the masses should have hope in their own future."

Maryam Shahrabi, an employee of the Central Bank says, on the subject of the American economic embargo that "As I see it, we must first investigate and see whether the economic embargo is real, or just a political ploy on the part of America. If this matter is real, we must lessen our consumption and increase our production through a program of economic development in agriculture and in industry."

COMMENTATOR CLAIMS CUTS POSSIBLE IN IDF SPENDING

TA251206 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 25 May 80 p 5

(Commentary by Shmuel Schnitzer: "There is Something to Cut")

[Text] The defense experts who checked and rechecked the defense establishment's expenditures and did not find that any cuts could be made in them apparently did not read the latest state comptroller's report. They would have found some very instructive details there about areas in defense spending where savings can be made, not only without damaging the IDF's operational capability, but even increasing this capability.

When the state comptroller examines the equipment and ammunition that should be maintained by a specific unit and finds that dozens of items are lacking--and sometimes that unit lacks more than half of the tools and spare parts it should have--nobody imagines that this is caused by limited resources or withholding essential equipment from a fighting unit for economy. Everyone understands that the equipment was supplied but was lost through carelessness, bad accounting and bad maintenance, lack of respect for IDF property and ineptness in the quartermaster corps.

The check made for this year's report was carried out in one unit, and it may be assumed that the unit was chosen arbitrarily and not because of any rumors. It is almost certain that this is the situation in the average unit of this size. If we multiply the figures mentioned by the comptroller for the value of the missing equipment by the number of forces of the same size in the IDF, we will arrive at a deficit of hundreds of millions [of Israeli pounds]. This deficit is generally made up, since it would be inconceivable to leave a fighting force without the tools it needs to perform its duties.

The need to supply the same equipment twice is not part of the conditions necessary for the IDF to perform its mission. Making controls tighter, making commanders and soldiers personally responsible for equipment in their charge and repeated internal control to insure that orders are followed concerning the maintenance of the expensive fighting equipment will not only allow very large sums to be saved, but will also have a good effect on discipline in the IDF and correct attitudes toward government

property. The IDF, as a result of these moves, will be a better army, even though its spending will be cut appreciably.

Because the defense establishment plays with billions [of Israeli pounds] it is inclined to sneer at sums of only several million, since this is only a drop in the bucket of giant outlays involved in Israel's security. Because the Defense Ministry is accustomed to signing many procurement contracts (to the point where there was a claim made last week that if the signing of contracts is stopped for a few days, following the economic minicabinet's decision, it will disrupt normal work in the defense establishment), there is a trend toward ordering without checking whether it is a matter of genuine amortization or a shortage caused by careless treatment and maintenance (the state comptroller's findings uncovered orders for equipment that was actually in the country at the time--sometimes even in the stores of the unit that had ordered it). In contrast to a situation in which there is a lack of items that should be in stock in accordance with the rules and the accounting, this is a case of things being kept and ordered often without the knowledge of people who ought to know about this. A new examination of what is on hand and its exact accounting could also be a source of considerable savings. By the way, if a way can be found to impose order in the IDF stores, we will only be able to welcome this.

The state comptroller is not an expert in security matters, nor is he a party to the argument that broke out between the ministers of defense and finance. However, it is because his examination was not made with the aim of deciding whether it would be possible to cut back on the defense budget that it is an important, objective and reliable contribution to the argument between the experts. It was he who decided--even before this was decided by the finance minister--that great savings could be made in the defense establishment, without cutting back on planes, tanks, artillery and the other weapons. It was he who painted--even before Yiga'el Hurvitz did so--a picture of contempt for public property and carelessness in treatment of tools costing enormous amounts.

This is not a new picture. We know it from many other spheres of public activity. The average Israeli has no mercy on tools and equipment, unless there is scrupulous supervision over them and unless he has to pay out of his own pocket for any loss or damage. The IDF is the disciplinary framework in which this supervision can be imposed. Anyone who says that there is nothing in it [the IDF] to save or cut is putting a seal of approval on a situation that, even without the current dispute, is unbearable. There is no self-respecting expert who can say that it can and should be put up with.

CSO: 4805

ISRAEL CAUTIONED ABOUT POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF SECOND SADAT VISIT TO JERUSALEM

Jerusalem HAMODI'A in Hebrew 9 Apr 80 p 2

[Editorial: "Sadat in Washington"]

[Text] Egyptian President Anwar Sadat yesterday began his talks with President Carter. Next week the prime minister of Israel Menahem Begin will go there for the same purpose. The purpose is clear in itself, to resolve the complication which has developed in the talks on ways to establish autonomy in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza. This is taking place in light of the approach of the "target date" established in the Camp David agreements while there is no prospect on the horizon that the discussions will be concluded by that date. One can infer from the fact that President Carter did not invite the two leaders for a joint meeting that he indeed feels that the ground is not ready for such a meeting since the existing gap is still too deep to be bridged at one summit meeting. However, one should not rule out the possibility that such a meeting will indeed be called for in the not too distant future. The Egyptian president has no reason to complain about the implementation of the peace treaty. On various occasions, Sadat has declared that Israel is indeed fulfilling all its commitments in accordance with the treaty. What bothers the Egyptian president is the Palestinian issue. His agreement to be satisfied with a transition stage in an autonomy administration has deepened the opposition to his peace initiative. The Arab world expected him to insist on the realization of a Palestinian entity, at least in the territories which Israel will have to evacuate. In this matter he is waiting for help from the United States, but this help has been delayed and the reasons are understandable. The issue has been injected into the election campaign which is already underway in the United States. Carter is caught in a very complex dilemma. The nightmare of the results of the primary election in New York, results which are likely to overshadow every victory elsewhere, pursues him.

It is reasonable to assume that both Carter and Sadat will endeavor to achieve an extension of the autonomy talks. However, the latter will be unable to do this without a "gesture" to protect him from the slander of his opponents from within and without. His situation has become uncomfortable even within Egypt. There is a ferment against the political process which has caused Egypt's isolation in the Arab world. This isolation is reflected also in other areas, including the economy and ties with the Arab world. It is still too early to talk about the conditions which Sadat will present to

Carter, however it is doubtful if Mr Begin will be able to respond affirmatively to such a request which will include also the suggestion to freeze settlement activity, an accomplishment which Sadat will be able to wave in front of his opponents. The decision of the government in the Hebron issue points to a harder line. This decision contained an element of definitely serious and superfluous provocation, and Mr Begin was aware of this aspect of the political significance. As such, it is difficult to expect him to give a commitment on an issue which he considers to be of supreme importance, even if the price will be a deferment of the target date which would mean a longer breath without moving to a confrontation with Egypt, a confrontation which is likely to endanger the peace treaty.

The Egyptian president will undoubtedly use his visit in Washington in order to increase his popularity in the American capital as he has done on previous visits. As a master of political tactics, he has even made sure to prepare for himself a "setting" of a new peace initiative, the centerpiece of which will be another visit to Jerusalem and a speech in the Knesset. It is perhaps too early to react to the rumors, however it seems to us that there is reason for profound consideration of the significance and the effects of such a talk which would provide Sadat with a rare opportunity, a golden opportunity to acquire for himself the halo of a "messenger of peace." It must be remembered that Mr Begin has not been given the opportunity to speak before the Egyptian representatives, and there is also no prospect that this will be done in the near future. The advantage is completely in the hands of Sadat, and one should not underestimate the extent of the influence of such an appearance, primarily on international public opinion and not least also on public opinion in Israel. His first appearance in the Knesset instantly changed his image in the western world. It is likely to produce heavy pressure on Israel. It will be difficult to avoid extending the invitation to Sadat. However, a considerable degree of resourcefulness will be required in order to evade this trap which the Egyptian president is setting.

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ISRAEL URGED TO ADOPT STRONGER LINE AGAINST EGYPTIAN CHARGES

Jerusalem HANODI'A in Hebrew 4 Apr 80 p 2

[Editorial: "Appropriate Response to Egyptian Attack Is Required"]

[Text] Recently Cairo has been using virtually every possible political platform to pressure Israel and to aggravate its condition of isolation. Recently it pulled out the subject of Jerusalem in a resolution of Egypt's "People's Assembly" stating that Israel must hand back East Jerusalem to the Arabs and return to the situation which existed before the Six Day War.

Although the Egyptian resolution is now new in terms of its basic position, which has been known all along, the form in which it has now been reaffirmed and the publicity given to it require Israel to seriously consider if the tactic which it has used is really the correct one and if it can continue along the path it has always taken in defending itself against Egyptian actions and not reacting in kind by a political attack.

There can be various reasons for the Egyptian resolution. It is likely that an internal reason is involved. Recently opposition voices there which are seeking to undermine Sadat's actions have been becoming stronger. Moreover, there is now taking place in the Security Council a debate on a draft resolution demanding the establishment of a Palestinian state, deliberations which yesterday appeared to be ending for the time without a resolution. Egypt is concerned about being viewed in the Arab world as laggard in terms of its concern and dedication to the "Palestinian issue," and as such, she has hastened to demonstrate her concern in an extremist resolution knowing that it would be very painful to Israel, and perhaps in this form it would push it to the necessity to make compromises on other issues related to autonomy.

It is clear that in terms of the timing the resolution of the "Egyptian People's Assembly" came along to make even more serious the critical date of 26 May which Egypt views as a target date for concluding the autonomy negotiations. And it is around this that Egypt is working with considerable sophistication and apparently within a framework of a detailed plan as to when and how to attack Israel again and again and to strengthen its isolation in the international community.

The regular Egyptian propaganda line is to very frequently accuse Israel of placing obstacles in the path to normalization and of sabotaging the autonomy negotiations. Israel, as was stated, reacts weakly, either rejecting all kinds of unreasonable Egyptian suggestions or defending itself against every Egyptian attack.

It seems that the time has come to respond to Egypt in the same way that it conducts itself against us. The peace agreement must certainly be kept, and we must strive in every way for the deepening of the normalization, but whenever Egypt tries to gain from us by a political attack that which it has been unable to achieve at the negotiating table, then Israel must adopt the same measures. If an Israeli refusal to accept an Egyptian suggestion which is contrary to the Camp David accords becomes an "obstacle to peace," then every Israeli suggestion rejected by Egypt must also be described as such an obstacle, and this must be done by using international platforms and arousing public opinion for this purpose.

That resolution on Jerusalem of the "People's Assembly" in Egypt must be rejected by Israel not by way of self-defense and soft language but rather by an attack over all the international communications media, emphasizing the fact that it is explicitly contrary to the Camp David accords and that it is completely contrary to the assurances which the United States gave to Israel before the signing of the peace agreements. Since Egypt is attempting to bring up now issues which are not related to autonomy but rather things which it considers necessary, apparently for internal needs against its own opposition or against extremists in the Arab camp, then objectively, it is she who is damaging the autonomy negotiations, it is she who is the disturbing element, and it is she who is impeding the progress of the autonomy negotiations.

Cairo must know that also in peacetime conditions there is reciprocity, and that if she wants to gain a congenial attitude on the part of Israel, she must conduct herself in this way. However, if she is not prepared to do so, she can only expect that she will gain a similar attitude on the part of Jerusalem. This must be the tactic today of the government of Israel and the ministry of foreign affairs, to present Egypt as an obstacle to the continuation of the progress towards peace and to repel every such Egyptian attack against it. There is agreement on the Jerusalem issue among the overwhelming majority of the Israeli population. Jerusalem was declared the unified capital of Israel right after the Six Day War. Sadat should not think that he will now succeed in changing this matter, all by the back road of the autonomy negotiations. It is his attempt to achieve this that is encumbering the negotiations between the two countries, and this point must be stressed unceasingly to international public opinion.

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EGYPT SEEN FAVORING JORDANIAN SOLUTION TO PALESTINIAN PROBLEM

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 2 Apr 80 p 10

[Article by Amos Elon: "The Clinical Style of Sadat--Egypt, One Year After the Peace (2)"]

[Text] The president spoke in a style to which all have already become accustomed. It was at the beginning of the second week of March. Sadat spoke to the members of his party on the attempt of Arab rulers "to strangle" the Egyptian autonomy. This attempt has failed, said the president. He began to deride the leaders of Libya, Iraq, and Syria. They are not only tyrannical and corrupt, they are mentally disturbed. Assad--neurotic. Qadhafi--crazy. The Iraqis are not a nation. They are a wild tribe. Their mental development is "defective."

In that very week, in a conversation with an Israeli journalist, Sadat repeated these claims and added claims about "the psychological difficulties" still prevalent in Israel in spite of his initiative. They constitute at least 80 percent of the problem as opposed to 70 percent a year ago. "Complexes" impel Israel to mobilize the Jewish lobby in America for a campaign against the Egyptian-American arms deal. "We have freed ourselves from all our former complexes," said the president. However, difficult psychological blocks remain in Israel. They are preventing a settlement.

Several days later, in a conversation with another Israeli journalist (Shmuel Segev of HA'ARETZ), the president was asked why King Husayn does not join his peace initiative in spite of many invitations. It's simple, responded the president. Husayn is a "schizophrenic!" Shmuel Segev was somewhat shocked by this unusual style. He asked Sadat if he could quote this expression. Absolutely, said the president. Absolutely. Why not? Everyone knows that Husayn is a schizophrenic. And not only he, his father was also mentally ill.

Moreover, Husayn--said Sadat--is addicted to "money."

There is something in this clinical style, often used by Sadat, which sheds light on his manner of thinking and on his perhaps overly simple view of the conflict. People like him think in broad generalities. Sadat has always been

bothered by the details which stand in his way to a broad generality. He has always despised such details. One time an American bishop visited him. Sadat greeted him with the following: I have just made an important discovery. All of the religions are one. There is no difference between Islam, Christianity, and Judaism. "What data led you to this conclusion?" wondered the American bishop. "Oh!" exclaimed Sadat, "They are minor details. Let the theologians worry about that."

Such a grandiose contempt for the minor details is apparently also characteristic of his attitude toward the Arab-Israeli conflict and perhaps also to the Palestinian problem. It is evident from his comments that the protagonists in this conflict have no interests, no rights, and no fears--even illegitimate ones. They have complexes. Only the Egyptians are completely "healthy" according to this view. They overcame all their complexes in the October war. As for all the others, it seems that Sadat has decided to establish a large psychiatric clinic in order to cure them.

He will apparently cure the Israelis by full normalization--from which there is no turning back, according to him, even if the autonomy talks fail. He will do this also, it seems, with a direct appeal to Israeli public opinion, going over the head of the Israeli government. The weaker the Begin government grows, and the stronger the impression becomes that its days are numbered, the more numerous will be the attempts of Sadat and his government to appeal directly to public opinion in Israel by means of the communications media and the opening of gates. Egypt is open to the Israelis, he says at every opportunity. Let them come in their multitudes and they will see with their very eyes that Egypt desires peace with all its heart and all its might.

The Objective--A Comprehensive Settlement

The president has forced this accelerated normalization, at a time earlier than was planned, on his ministers and officials, at times against their will. His ministers and officials have sought a clearer linkage between the pace of normalization and progress in the autonomy talks. The president has not accepted their view. He frequently surprises them. They are used to this.

The day after my meeting with the president, I had a telephone conversation with a high-level person, one of his closest aides. "How was your conversation with the president?" he asked. Very good, I said.

"Good for Egypt--or good for Israel?" asked President Sadat's aide. Afterwards he started to laugh. In this question, however, there was something characteristic of this capital in which the president's closest aides and advisers never know what he is going to do. I cannot think of any other capital in which a person at such a high level would pose such a question, even laughingly.

For this reason, more than a few foreign observers in Cairo maintain that with the approach of 26 May--designated in the treaty as a target date for completion of the autonomy negotiations--the diplomatic pressure will really intensify, and perhaps the style of the debate will become more acrimonious. However, there will be no stalemate in the talks, they will continue. This does not mean that Sadat will be satisfied with a separate peace with Israel. On the contrary. Every utterance of his--every hint and comment even in off-the-record conversations--attest to his resolve to achieve a comprehensive settlement. Not in the way of his advisers, perhaps, who have urged him to delay the normalization until there is more substantive progress in the autonomy talks but rather in his own way. Everyone who has met him is impressed by his abundant self-confidence in the rightness of his path and its effectiveness. Everyone who has met him is impressed by his belief that time is on the side of Egypt, that is to say on the side of a comprehensive settlement. He is well aware of Israel's growing international isolation. He is no less aware of the deep crisis in which it is involved and the possibility that the Begin government will be replaced in the foreseeable future by another more flexible government. It is likely that he does not adequately distinguish between the dissatisfaction in Israel over the general functioning of the government and the lesser dissatisfaction with its policy in foreign affairs and settlements. This does not lessen the feeling of self-confidence which characterizes Sadat and in a not insignificant measure also his foreign ministry apparatus.

In the last year Egyptian diplomats and ministers have had many opportunities to become acquainted with their Israeli counterparts. This close acquaintanceship has increased their self-confidence.

A knowledgeable diplomat in Cairo maintains that a kind of "hubris" toward their Israeli counterparts has developed among Egyptian ministers and officials. In the autonomy talks they have encountered Israeli teams which are divided, quarrelsome, prone to shouting, unprepared, and mainly--without real authority. On one occasion, Dr Khalil asked Dr Burg with unconcealed irony: "Are you speaking for the Israeli team, or is Shmuel Tamir perhaps your leader? Or Ariel Sharon?"

A year and one-half after Simha Dinitz returned from the Camp David talks, reporters asked him if there will be technical cooperation between Israel and Egypt after the signing of the peace treaty. "Absolutely," said Dinitz. One reporter asked: "We will teach them farming, but what can they teach us?"

"Diplomacy!" said Dinitz in a short and sweet response.

In this atmosphere the Egyptians are now waiting to see how things develop in Israel. What is the life expectancy of the Begin government? Virtually everyone who has spent this month in Egypt is under the impression that at least some of the Egyptians who are involved in the matter--including several of the personalities closest to the president--are asking themselves if there remains at all any prospect of reaching an understanding with the Begin government under the existing conditions and if "the beginning of the solution" to the Palestinian problem should not be deferred, in the absence of an alternative, until the establishment of a new government.

Elections in the Background

In Sadat's psychiatric clinic, it seems that there is no more room for the Begin government--which is incurable in the opinion of the president's retinue and perhaps in his opinion also--and it is necessary to wait for its inheritors. "Begin today is the real leader of the rejectionist front," says an Egyptian minister. "God willing--he will soon be replaced." I have the impression that Cairo is prepared to wait a year. The fact that this is an election year in America also contributes to the virtually universal feeling that there will be no progress before 1981.

Several senior people asked me: "Isn't Mr Peres prepared to visit Cairo soon?" One of the people with whom Mr Peres had a conversation in his last visit in Cairo was very encouraged, according to him, to hear from Peres that he advocates a Jordnaian solution for the West Bank and for its sake, he is prepared for a "very significant" withdrawal from the West Bank, in the words of that Egyptian.

A Jordanian solution is in consonance with the current outlook in Cairo. Sadat believes that Husayn will join the peace talks at the moment that the Palestinians will be offered something "attractive." What if the Palestinians--divided and quarreling among themselves--will not respond to any inducement? To this question, which I posed to virtually everyone, a senior minister responded: "In that case, the Palestinians can go to hell. "

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RETHINKING OF NATIONAL PRIORITIES FOR POST-AUTONOMY PERIOD URGED

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Apr 80 p 11

[Article by A. Schweitzer: "The Differences Are Not Marginal"]

[Text] The world has taken a page out of Mr Begin's book. Akin to his statement that it will not be a tragedy if the autonomy negotiations continue beyond 26 May, the nations are saying that it will not be a tragedy if the Security Council expands Resolution 242 and includes in it something about the right of self-determination for the Palestinians, to the point of the establishment of their own state. The sky will not fall, as the prime minister says--however it is doubtful if the balance for Israel will be more positive as a result of these two matters.

It is necessary, therefore, to make haste. This estimate is apparently gaining more acceptance even in Jerusalem. Mr Begin will travel to Washington and will take with him formulas for compromise, designed to permit him and his partners Presidents Carter and Sadat to continue the Camp David process and to repel the western European attack in the Security Council. A prerequisite for his success is that the latter two still see living room for the trio and that they have not yet decided that the political usefulness of continuing their partnership with Mr Begin has been exhausted.

The prime minister is correct: Israel has been prepared to carry out everything to which it committed itself in the Camp David documents and the peace treaty and its annexes. However, for the United States and Egypt, it is not the literal text which is the determining factor but rather the intention to weaken, and in the course of time to remove, Israel's actual hold on Judea, Samaria, and Gaza. And if Mr Begin will not contribute to this--and the view is that such is the case--the United States and Egypt will join hands in order to bring about the fall of the present government in Israel in the hope that another government will be more amenable.

The only one who can be associated with the current administration and who sees clearly the situation and the trend and proposes a solution is Mr Moshe Dayan. In an interview published on the holiday, he discerns that the United States and Egypt want actions which prove the readiness of Israel to leave the West

Bank and Gaza, apart from legalisms. Moreover, since there is no prospect of finalizing the formal apparatus as specified in the Camp David agreements and the peace treaty, there should be a transfer of authority to the Arabs of these areas as a unilateral act.

Dayan's formula can be attacked in terms of its basic assumption that there can be found Arabs who will cooperate in such actions among the mayors and political activists. However, the argument closest to home is that Mr Begin is not ready to cooperate--and it was because of this unreadiness that Dayan was forced to leave the government. Such a proposal from Dayan is perhaps likely to be accepted in principle by the Alignment, however not by the Likud headed by Begin: one cannot train a tiger to eat the food of cows, albeit of the best kind.

Dayan's one mistake is in his claim that the differences of opinion between the Likud and the Alignment on the balance of control in the West Bank and Gaza are marginal. The fact that some of the settlements were established by the Alignment, and some even have a link which binds them to Mr Yisrael Galili, does not say much. The comparison with Yamit is enlightening: the Alignment is likely to conduct itself in an essentially pragmatic fashion, as they conducted negotiations on ownership of the West Bank and Gaza in the way that Messrs Begin and Dayan (the initiator of Yamit) conducted the negotiations on the Sinai: that is to say on the marginal issues and in accordance with practical motives. The Alignment lacks the ideological basis of Mr Begin--history, or of Dayan--living together with the Arabs.

It is more difficult to shake Dayan's statement that a change in government alone will not help. It seems that during the settlement of the legacy of the Six Day War, new basic conditions for Israel's war of survival are created and uncovered. The discernment of the circumstances on the one hand and the establishment of goals and means appropriate to them on the other hand are prerequisites for the consolidation of an authentic national leadership. The doubt that still continues to linger regarding the Alignment in spite of its impressive rise in public opinion polls is based on the paucity of signs that the new reality has been absorbed and that it has passed through the first digestive processes.

It seems that the main difference lies in the nature of the danger seen for Israel. Without ruling out the possibility that a general war will break out between Israel and its Arab neighbors, the probability of a total armed struggle has decreased: what President Sadat is saying in this connection is not regarded as only slogans or tactics. On the other hand, the economic pressure on Israel will increase: in a time of a shortage of energy or basic raw materials, most of the economic burdens fall on the countries with industries which are not well founded such as Israel which lacks both energy and raw materials. What is evident from this is the need to rethink the national priorities and to identify the means to achieve them. It is possible that this has been done by think tanks, however their findings are placed in drawers and are gathering dust there. The open political struggle between the Likud

and the Alignment revolves around questions which the past, and specifically the Six Day War, has bequeathed. Even in these, the differences are not marginal, and their realistic solution is important now more than ever. However, this is only the introduction: the creation of a long-term legitimization of the Israeli government, whatever it be, depends upon the provision of political answers to the problems of the time beyond autonomy.

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ISRAEL

CITIZENS BECOME MORE 'HAWKISH' ON PALESTINIAN ISSUE

TA231143 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 23 May 80 p 1

(Text) In recent weeks, apparently against the background of the events in the territories and in Hebron, public criticism of the government defense policy has increased. It should be noted that in the past the evaluation of the government's handling of defense has been more favorable.

Question: What do you think of the way the government is handling political and defense affairs?

Date	Not good economically	Not good politically	Not good on defense
March 80	87	87	55
May 80	82	84	64

These are results of the current poll by the Institute for Applied Social Research and the Institute of Communications of the Hebrew University, conducted continually since the 6-day war. The issues in question were investigated at the request of YEDI'OT AHARONOT.

Another finding of the survey is that in the wake of the events in Hebron "hawkish" attitudes on the Palestinian issue have increased. The willingness to have a dialogue with the PLO, even if it recognizes Israel's right to exist, has declined (38 percent in early May, as compared to 47 percent in April). There has also been a decline in willingness to permit the establishment of a Palestinian state, even if its establishment is the key to peace (from 36 percent in April to 26 percent in May).

CSO: 4805

VILLAGERS SUBMIT APPEAL ON LAND EXPROPRIATION FOR MA'ALE EDUMIM

TA271459 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 27 May 80 p 9

[Article by Dalya Mazori]

[Text] Eleven inhabitants of Jerusalem, Bethlehem and (al-Marsaras) in the Bethlehem district have submitted an appeal to the high court of justice protesting the expropriation of their land to establish the town of Ma'ale Edumim.

The appeal is addressed to the defense minister, the military commander of Judea and Samaria and the military government in the Bethlehem district. The appellants demand to know why the IDF soldiers were not ordered not to disturb the villagers of (al-Marsaras) from cultivating their land. The appellants also demand an explanation of why the settlers would not be removed from the site and the IDF soldiers would not remove the fences, buildings and tents erected on their land. The appeal will be debated by a panel of three judges.

The appeal was submitted by attorney Mu'in Khuri. It states that the land on which the settlement of Ma'ale Edumim will be established belongs to the 11 appellants.

At the beginning of January the appellants were informed that the land was being expropriated "for public needs." They appealed to the Defense Ministry and were told that a road was being paved on their land. However, immediately afterwards, groundbreaking work began. The appellants realized that permanent buildings were being established on their land in a rapid and surprising way. The appeal notes that as opposed to construction carried out so far in all the settlements in Judea and Samaria, the work on their land was designed for permanent and high-rise buildings. The work also included the excavation of foundations. To the best of their knowledge, the intention was to establish a permanent settlement on their land while ignoring their rights over it.

The appeal states that the defense minister and the military government went beyond their authority because the "settlement they intend to establish or leave on the site is a permanent settlement, whose existence will extend beyond the period of military rule or military occupation."

1979 WEST BANK, GAZA STATISTICS REPORTED

TA261022 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 May 80 p 2

[Text] By the end of 1979 the population in Judaea and Samaria amounted to approximately 698,000--an increase of about 7,800 (1.1 percent) compared with 1978. The increase was caused by a natural growth increase of approximately 20,400 (births minus deaths) and from a loss of 12,600 people through emigration. At the end of 1979 the population of the Gaza Strip numbered 432,000--an increase of 11,700 (2.8 percent) resulting from a natural growth increase of 16,100 and a loss of 4,400 people through emigration. Thus, the population of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip increased by 19,500 in 1979, reaching 1,131,000. This was reported by the spokesman for the Central Bureau of Statistics. The figures were based on population estimates.

In 1979, the workforce in those regions reached 214,000 a week, on the average. The rate of participation in the workforce among persons 14 years and above did not change in 1979 compared with 1978. It stabilized at approximately 33 percent. At the same time there was a decrease in the workforce in Judaea and Samaria, whereas there was a slight increase in the Gaza Strip.

There was a decrease in the number of people employed in agriculture (working either in the territories or in Israel): from about 37,000 in 1978 to 33,000 in 1979 (about 10 percent). The most marked change in the Gaza Strip and northern Sinai was seen in industry, which absorbed 16,000 workers in 1979 versus 14,000 in 1978 (an increase of 13 percent).

In 1979 on a weekly average, approximately 74,000 people from the territories worked in Israel (about 35 percent of all the employed inhabitants of the territories, compared with approximately 68,000 in 1978; an increase of 9 percent). Israel was the place of work for 40,000 inhabitants of Judaea and Samaria in 1979 (compared with 36,800 in 1978) and for 34,400 from the Gaza Strip (compared with 31,400 in 1978).

The number of people employed in the construction industry reached 34,200 in 1979, compared with 30,600 in 1978. In Judaea and Samaria the increase

was 14 percent and in the Gaza Strip, 9 percent. Similarly, the number of people working in the Israeli industrial sector grew from 15,000 in 1978 to about 17,000 in 1979.

In 1979 the average daily wage for Judeea and Samaria residents working in Israel amounted to about 200 pounds, an increase of about 77 percent over 1978. The increase in the average real wages of the populace, minus the consumer price index, reached 6 percent.

The average daily wage for a person from the Gaza Strip and northern Sinai working in Israel amounted to 222 pounds in 1979, an increase of 104 percent compared with 1978. Minus the consumer price index, the increase in the real daily wage amounted to approximately 18 percent.

CSO: 4805

MERCHANTS CRITICIZED FOR STRIKE

Jerusalem HAMODI'A in Hebrew 9 Apr 80 p 2

[Editorial: "Commercial Strike"]

[Text] We will hope that this original strike will indeed be unsuccessful. A large number of merchants will understand that this is neither the time nor the way. Business will not gain public sympathy by punishing those who are not responsible for the governmental taxation policy. It is very likely that in the final analysis, the merchants will find out that it is possible to manage without them and that the only one damaged will be the merchant himself who will drive customers away from his business.

It is not for us to enter into a clarification of the categories of business taxes. There was a period when this branch of the economy enjoyed great prosperity. The citizen who is not familiar with this entire imbroglio learned about this from the increase in the number of businesses and from the wealth winking from the shop windows. It is possible that a time of crisis has come to business however all hope is still not lost and whoever advocates freedom of commerce need not be upset about a crisis which affects a branch during a certain period of time. There is great doubt if there is another branch in the economy which does not have the right to complain about its condition as business. During the period of the Likud administration, and not only during this period, it had maximum freedom. In spite of the talk about the high profit margin in business, no one bothered to investigate this margin. The merchants were also not prepared to absorb the price increases and even before the arrival of the new merchandise, their prices jumped. We will also not proceed to investigate the level of the taxation or the morality of the taxation. These are matters in which it is better not to dig even if we do not seek to slander an entire community.

The strike is unnecessary. It is likely to damage only the merchants themselves. It would have been better had they considered beforehand the negative effect to be expected from this strike and had they accepted the advice proffered to them by the government representatives. The public which has frequently been the object of unjustified punishment is likely to draw conclusions, and in the final accounting, the merchants will lose.

5830

CSO: 4805

BRIEFS

SETTLEMENT OPPOSITION--A slight majority of the Israeli public believes in possible peaceful coexistence between Jews and Arabs beyond the green line. An outstanding majority believes that if Israel withdraws from the territories--without having implemented or in the framework of the autonomy--chances of establishing a Palestinian state will increase. The majority of the public views the handling of the situation in the aftermath of the Hebron incidents by the authorities positively. These are the leading conclusions of a public opinion poll conducted on behalf of the Information Center on 13 to 15 May 1980 by the Institute for Applied Social Research in cooperation with the Institute for Communications affiliated with the Hebrew University. A slight majority of 55 percent is in favor of continuing settlements in the territories even while the political negotiations with Egypt are taking place (as opposed to 45 percent who hold the opposite view). However, a majority of 70 percent is opposed to the establishment of settlements in densely-populated Arab areas compared with 30 percent who favor such an inclination. [Text] [TA271447 Tel Aviv 'AL HANISHMAR in Hebrew 27 May 80 p 2]

GUARD FORCE IN GOLAN SETTLEMENTS--The Jewish settlements on the Golan Heights have recently established an independent force which will patrol the area to prevent thefts in the settlements and primarily to prevent incidents of damages to agricultural harvests and equipment. The "Golan Settlements Guard" activists have been given the responsibility held by the society for the protection of nature. The patrol leaders have asked the police that their members be given the authority of policemen so that they can arrest suspects when necessary. [Menahem Rahat] [Text] [TA271409 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 27 May 80 p 16]

PROHIBITION ON POLITICAL ACTIVITY--The Gaza Strip military government has reminded the social clubs that they are forbidden to be politically active. The decision was made following reports that several clubs were deviating from the regulations prohibiting such activity. Among the organizations which received the notice is the Red Crescent, headed by Khaydar 'Abd al-Shafi, who is a member of the National Guidance Committee in the territories. [Text] [TA251431 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 25 May 80]

'COLLECTIVE PUNISHMENT' OF HEBRON--Hebron telephones are still cut off a week after the curfew was lifted during the daylight hours. Doctors, businessmen, institutions and private individuals are, in fact, cut off from most parts of the West Bank and are being forced to travel to clarify matters, order goods and so on. The severing of telephone service is apparently one of the extensions of the collective punishment which has not yet been canceled. There is great unrest in Hebron over the fact that the army continues to hold the boys' high school (Osma Bin ibn Almonqaz). The students are running free in the streets and will apparently lose a year of studies. The students from the higher grades will not be able to take the matriculation examinations. Holding the school is also a part of the collective punishment to which Hebron is being subjected. In Bethlehem and Hebron there has been a severe water shortage for several weeks. In Bethlehem there is running water in houses once every few days and, according to well-informed sources, this may cause the spread of disease. The reason for the water shortage, according to municipal experts, is the transfer of water intended for Bethlehem to the new housing developments in the Gila quarter established northwest of Bethlehem. There is no water shortage in Gila. [Text] [TA251053 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 25 May 80 p 2]

GUSH EMUNIM REORGANIZATION--Gush Emunim will reorganize. This was decided last night by several dozen Gush Emunim members who met and discussed the idea of "reforming Gush Emunim." The meeting was initiated by a few dozen leaders of Gush Emunim who claim that the movement ceased functioning recently. The speakers in the debate called for expansion of Gush Emunim's activity, especially in view of the difficult political situation. At the conclusion of the meeting it was decided to charge a committee of several members with the task of preparing proposals for the reorganization of Gush Emunim, particularly as far as education and information are concerned. [Text] [TA231208 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 23 May 80 p 3]

RETURN OF MUSLIM LEADER'S BODY--Members of Muslim pious sect (Shazouliyyah) are making attempts to obey the instruction of their leader, Shaykh Muhammad (al-Hadi Yashrutl) who died in Beirut yesterday, and bring his bones to Israel. He asked to be buried in 'Akko near his forefathers. Last night hundreds of the sect's followers from centers in Israel and from the territories gathered for a colorful memorial ceremony in the sect's small mosque in 'Akko. (Mahmoud 'Abasi), one of the sect's leaders in Israel, told our correspondent Gad Levi that the believers in Beirut were, for the moment, refusing to part from the leader's coffin and one of the sect's leaders in Jordan had left to persuade them. The (Shazouliyyah) is a pious, mystic, Sufi sect with several million believers in the Arab world and a branch in Israel was formed in 'Akko about 150 years ago. [Text] [TA280907 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 28 May 80]

WORKERS SUPPORT ALIGNMENT--In the election to the textile, clothing and leather workers' Histadrut, the Alignment has increased its strength by 15 percent compared with the previous election which took place 7 years ago. According to almost final results, the Alignment won almost 76 percent of the vote in this election. The Likud has lost half its strength and won only 10.5 percent. The NRP won a little less than it did in the 1973 election: 9.25 percent. The Hadaash faction won 4.25 percent. About 60 percent of those entitled to vote participated in the election. [Text] [TA280708 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 28 May 80]

LAND SEIZURE, HUNGER STRIKE--Some 1,000 dunams of land belonging to the village of al-Sawiyah near Mount Scopus have been expropriated and fenced off. This is the third time that the authorities have expropriated land belonging to this village. The first time 1,500 dunams were expropriated and the second time 2,500 dunams were expropriated. Five administrative prisoners in the Gaza Strip are staging a hunger strike to protest their arrest without a trial. They announced that they would strike indefinitely "until death" if they are not released or put on trial. The affair has been widely covered by the Arab press in east Jerusalem. [Excerpt] [TA271458 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 27 May 80 p 1]

OIL DRILLING--The National Oil Company will this week start a new drilling at the Ashdod VI site. Our reporter says drilling will go to a depth of 2,600 meters in an area south of previous oil prospecting attempts. [Text] [TA260609 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 May 80]

UNEMPLOYMENT DATA--Labor and Social Affairs Minister Yisra'el Katz told the Knesset yesterday that the number of unemployed is expected to rise by about 20,000 by the end of the year, to 57,000. But even that is a far cry from the 100,000 unemployed predicted when the government's new economic measures were introduced last November, Katz said. Surveying his ministry's activities in the Knesset, Katz also took a poke at the Alignment when he recalled that in the dark days of the 1967 recession, the unemployed had constituted 10.4 percent of the labor force. Today the figure is 4.3 percent. Katz said that despite all that has been done to protect the real value of pensions and allocations to the needy, the erosion of these payments under conditions of three-digit inflation was still a serious problem. [Excerpt] [TA270850 Jerusalem JERUSALEM POST in English 27 May 80 p 3]

CSO: 4820

SOCIAL SECURITY LAW PROVISIONS EXPLAINED

Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 31 Mar 80 p 5

[Article: "Comprehensive Study Issued on Social Security Benefits; Conditions Required of Insured Worker to Be Eligible for Retirement, Old Age Pension; Natural Disability and Death Benefits; Payment of Accident Compensations and Treatment Expenses"]

[Text] Amman--The General Social Security Agency has issued a comprehensive study on the rights and benefits enjoyed by the insured workers. The study has also explained the conditions required for eligibility for old age pension and for compensations. The study says:

Conditions Required for Eligibility for Old Age Pension:

Attainment by the insured male worker of the age of 60 and by the female worker of the age of 55.

The period of subscription to the agency should amount to at least 120 payments (or 10 years), including 36 consecutive payments in the 5 years preceding eligibility for the pension. Otherwise, subscription by the insured must amount to a period of 15 interspersed years.

Retirement Pension

The insured shall be entitled to old age retirement pension when fully meeting the conditions for this pension. The pension shall be calculated at the rate of one part of fifty [two percent] of the average monthly salary used as a base for the payment of the subscriptions of the insured to the last two years, or for the period of subscription of it is less than 2 years, for every year of subscription and for a maximum pension of 75 percent of the average salary.

The retirement pension shall be raised by 10 percent for the first dependent supported by the insured and by five percent for the second and third dependents that he supports.

Early Retirement

The insured shall be entitled to ask the agency to pay him a retirement pension if the period of his subscription to the agency's security plan amounts to 15 or more years, without his having to meet the age requirement stipulated previously, if he is over 45 years of age. If approved, the pension paid shall be reduced according to the age of the insured in the following manner:

- A. If the age of the insured is between 46 and 50 years, the pension shall be reduced by 10 percent.
- B. If the age of the insured is between 51 and 54, the pension shall be reduced by five percent.
- C. If the insured has completed 55 years of age, the pension shall not be reduced.

Cash Compensations:

If the services of the insured are terminated for one of the following reasons before the insured male worker attains the age of 60 and the insured female worker attains the age of 55, the worker shall be paid a cash compensation:

- 1. If the insured is no longer subject to the provisions of the law before he reaches the minimum retirement age (the agency's Executive Board shall determine the rules and the cases in accordance with which the insured can be no longer subject to the provisions of the law.)
- 2. If a married female worker resigns or if the provisions of the law become totally unapplicable to the insured worker and if the subscriptions of each of these two categories amount to at least 180 months, then the insured worker shall be entitled to have the option of getting the compensation stipulated in the preceding paragraph or the retirement pension which shall be paid when due. The compensation due shall be paid in one lump sum in accordance with the following rates for each year of subscription:

Ten percent of the average annual salary if the period of subscription to the agency is less than 60 months.

Twelve percent of the average annual salary if the period of subscription to the agency is more than 60 and less than 120 months.

Fifteen percent of the annual average salary if the period of subscription to the agency is 120 months or more.

Continuing Work After Age 60:

A worker reaching the age of 60 and not having yet completed the period entitling him to old age pension shall have the right to continue to work or to take up new work up to the age of 65 if this enables him to complete the period that entitles him to a retirement pension.

The insured worker shall be entitled to ask the General Social Security Agency in writing, through his employer, to add a previous period of service to his subscription to the security plan [presumably meaning back payment of subscription dues] so that this period may be calculated for the purpose of retirement in return for an additional sum that the insured shall pay to the agency.

Natural Disability and Death Insurance Benefits:

The worker covered by the insurance shall be entitled to a retirement pension or disability pension if he dies or develops total or partial disability. This shall be done in accordance with conditions that will be explained later.

Eligibility Requirements:

The natural total disability pension or death pension shall be due if the disability is developed or if the death occurs during the service of the insured.

The insured shall have paid at least 12 consecutive subscriptions or 24 interspersed subscriptions.

If the permanent partial disability leads to the termination of the services of the insured.

Natural Disability Pension:

The insured worker developing total or partial natural disability shall be entitled to a pension amounting to 50 percent of the average monthly salary on whose basis the insured has paid his subscription during his last year of service.

The total natural disability pension shall be increased by 25 percent if the insured is compelled to seek the help of others to carry on with his daily life. This shall be done after approval of the medical authorities concerned that are designated by the agency.

Death Pension

The death pension shall be due if the insured dies during the period of his service. This pension shall be calculated at the rate of 50 percent of the average monthly salary on whose basis the subscription was paid in the last year.

The death or disability pension shall be paid for the entire month during which the disability is proven or in which the death occurs.

Both the agency and the insured worker entitled to the disability pension shall have the right to appeal the total or partial natural disability decision within 2 weeks of being notified of this decision by the Higher Government Medical Commission. The appeal shall be made to an arbitration committee, provided that it is coupled with the supportive evidence. The committee's decision shall be final and not subject to appeal before any other authority.

Cash Compensations:

If the service of the insured ends because of death or of natural disability without his completing the period of subscription required for earning a retirement pension, the worker shall be paid a compensation calculated at the rate of 15 percent of the average monthly salary of the subscription period.

Rights of Beneficiaries Belonging to Family of Insured:

What is meant by beneficiaries are the members of the family of the insured or of the retirement pension or disability pension earner who meet the conditions and requirements stipulated by the law. These beneficiaries are:

The widow of the deceased, the brothers and sisters and the widowed or divorced daughters whom he supports and his parents. They also include the widower of a deceased female worker who is insured.

The pensions and compensations to which the beneficiaries are entitled shall be paid as of the beginning of the month in which the death occurs.

Widow of Deceased Worker:

The death, retirement or disability pension shall be paid to the widow upon the husband's death. This pension shall be cut off if the widow marries and restored if she gets divorced. If she marries another time, the pension shall be cut off finally.

Widower of Deceased Female Worker:

The husband of an insured worker is entitled to the pension of his deceased wife if he is completely disabled, if he has no other income equal to the retirement or disability pension to which he is entitled. If his income is less than this pension, the widower shall be paid the difference between the pension earned and the value of his private income. The rest of the pension shall be divided among the other beneficiaries in accordance with the chart attached to the law, without taking the husband into consideration in this distribution.

Parents of Deceased Workers:

The pension shall be paid to the parents of the insured or the earner of the retirement or disability pension, provided that his mother is not married to a man other than his father after (the latter's) death. It is also stipulated

that neither parent nor both parents together shall have private income equal to the pension. If this income is less than the pension, then a part of the pension equal to the difference shall be paid to them. The agency shall also pay to the children of the insured and to the brothers he supports the pension and compensations stipulated by the law, provided that they are not over 18 years of age at the time of the worker's death. Excluded from the age stipulation are:

A beneficiary who is a student until he reaches the age of 26 or completes the final academic year of the educational stage in which he is enrolled, even if he exceeds this age.

If the beneficiary suffers from a total disability that prevents him from earning a livelihood, the payment of the pension shall continue until the disability is eliminated.

Daughters and Sisters:

The death, retirement or disability pension shall be paid to the unmarried and divorced daughters of the insured and to the sisters he has been supporting. Any other income that the daughter or sister gets shall be deducted from this pension. The pension shall be cut off from the daughter or the sister if she gets married, shall be restored to her if she gets divorced and shall be cut off finally if she remarries.

Rights of Missing and of Beneficiaries:

If the insured or the earner of a retirement or disability pension is considered missing, a temporary aid equal to the pension value shall be paid to his beneficiaries in accordance with conditions and terms determined by the agency's Executive Board. The death pension shall be due for payment when the death is proven.

Guaranteeing Rights of Insured:

An employer must pay the due subscriptions for himself and for his workers. In case the employer fails to carry out his duty, the General Social Security Agency shall preserve the worker's right to collect his dues.

The calculation of the worker's earned pension and compensations shall be done on the basis of the period of service and the average wages.

If a dispute takes place over the period or the salary, the pension or compensation shall be paid on the basis of the undisputed period of service and salary until a court decides the value of the pension or of the compensation, provided that the pension in this case is no less than the determined minimum pension.

The agency shall sue the employer for all the sums it pays, along with the delay interest and the negligence penalties stipulated by the social security law.

Safeguarding Compensations and Dues:

The sums due for payment to the insured or to his beneficiaries may not be detained except for alimony payment (dayn al-nafaqah) and for debts owed to the agency, provided that the debt amounts to no more than one quarter the due sums and provided that priority is given to alimony payment.

The retirement and disability pensions and the compensations paid to the insured shall be exempted from all taxes and fees. If an insured worker earns more than one pension from the General Social Security Agency, only the higher pension shall be paid him. The pension determined in accordance with the social security law may be combined with any other retirement or old age pensions determined in accordance with any other legislations.

End-of-Service Reward:

Upon implementation of the social security law, the provision concerning the end-of-service reward in the labor law shall be abolished and the provisions of the social security law shall replace them.

The employer shall pay to his workers or their beneficiaries the end-of-service reward or any other rights earned in accordance with any other law, regulation or agreement. The employer shall pay the workers the dues earned for the periods preceding implementation of the social security law at the time of the termination of a worker's services or at any other time.

The employers shall also pay their workers the differences between the financial rights to which the regulations, arrangements and collective agreements entitle the workers (if these rights are better than the end-of-service reward stipulated by the labor law) and the subscriptions that the workers are required to pay to the General Social Security Agency in accordance with the social security law at the end of their services.

Savings and Health Insurance:

Any regulations, arrangements or agreements concerning the savings and health insurance of the workers shall remain in force until the provisions of this law go into effect.

Medical Care:

As for insurance against work accidents and occupational diseases:

The cost of transporting the casualty from the accident site to the place of treatment.

The costs of medical treatment and hospital stay until the casualty recovers and returns to his work or is proven disabled. The treatment costs shall include the fees of practicing and specialist physicians, surgery fees and the costs of X-rays, other medical tests and of the necessary medication.

Providing rehabilitation services, including artificial limbs, to the injured worker.

Daily Compensations:

A daily compensation shall be paid to a worker temporarily disabled because of a work accident or occupational disease. This compensation shall equal 75 percent of the worker's daily wages used as a base for paying the [social security] subscriptions. The compensation shall be reduced to 65 percent if the casualty is present in one of the treatment centers designated by the agency. Payment of the daily compensation shall continue for as long as the worker is unable to work or until permanent disability is proven or death occurs.

Pension for Permanent Total Disability:

A worker developing permanent total disability as a result of a work accident shall be paid 75 percent of the wages used as a base for paying his subscriptions. This pension shall be increased by 25 percent if the casualty is in need of constant help from others to carry out the functions of daily life.

Pension for Permanent Partial Disability:

A disability pension shall be paid to the worker if his accident leads to a permanent partial disability of 30 percent or more (the disability percentage and the accident causing it shall be assessed in accordance with the chart attached to the social security law on the basis of a certification from the medical authority). The value of the disability pension shall be determined on the basis of the disability percentage in comparison with the total disability pension.

Lump Sum Cash Compensations:

A lump sum cash compensation shall be paid to the worker if his accident leads to a permanent partial disability of less than 30 percent. This compensation shall be equal to the disability percentage as compared to the value of total disability compensation for a period of 36 months and shall be paid in one lump sum.

8494

CSO: 4802

JORDAN

HEALTH MINISTER SAYS HEALTH INSURANCE SYSTEM TO BE DEVELOPED, IMPROVED

Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 1 Apr 80 p 5

[Article: "Dr Malhas: Expanding Umbrella of Health Insurance; Giving Citizens Who Are Not Civil Servants Opportunity to Participate in Social Insurance and to Benefit From Its Services"]

[Text] Amman--Dr Zuhayr Malhas, the minister of health, has announced that the Ministry of Health is about to prepare a draft plan to amend the health insurance system currently in force.

Answering a question by AL-DUSTUR, Dr Malhas said that the Ministry of Health seeks from amending the health insurance system to develop and improve the curative and medical services which the ministry offers beneficiaries of the health insurance system so that it may provide them with treatment services in the best manner possible, with the required speed and at standards capable of improving the effectiveness of the curative and medical services in the hospitals, clinics and centers of the Ministry of Health, as well as offering effective medication.

Dr Malhas said that the amendments will be introduced to the health insurance system in the light of an evaluation of the previous experience of applying the health insurance system which has lasted several years in order to fill the gaps in this system.

He added that a team of Ministry of Health specialists is currently studying the outcome of the questionnaire conducted by the ministry among the directors of health and the physicians working in the ministry's apparatus in the governorates and the districts to learn their opinions on the health insurance situation and on how to develop and improve it.

Dr Malhas added that the study includes the possibility of expanding the umbrella of health insurance in order to give the citizens who are not civil servants the opportunity to take part in the health insurance and to benefit from its services.

8494

CSO: 4802

INVESTMENT OFFICIAL UNIES ARAB INVESTMENT COOPERATION

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 14-20 Apr 80 pp 36-37

[Interview with Deputy Director of the Kuwaiti Investment Company Hilal al-Matiri, Conducted by Yasin al-Ahmad]

[Excerpts] On the way to his office, one presumes that he will be meeting an older man close to 50 years of age, but one is surprised to discover that the deputy director of the Kuwaiti Investment Company is only 35 years old. Nonetheless, he possesses considerable experience in the field of investment and world money market laws, a world which is full of surprises and which requires nerves of steel. We embarked on the following discussion with him.

[Question] Brother Hilal, at the beginning let us give the reader an idea of the nature of the Kuwait Investment Company.

[Answer] It is an investment company in the general sense of the word. It is one of the oldest organizations specializing in investments in the Arab world, having been founded in 1951. The government contributes 50 percent of its capital, and individuals contribute the other 50 percent.

One can divide the company's activities into two basic parts. First, it specializes in international transfers, including the issuance of bonds and their sale on the secondary market. Under this heading comes the office of the financial governor, which manages the money of other people. In addition there is the banking activity, which includes deposits, currency conversion, and financing the issuance of international bonds and contracts.

Second comes direct investment, including investments within Kuwait and abroad. This includes the purchase of real estate, participation in industries, and partnership in banks and world organizations all over the world. As you can see, the company has an international nature.

In fact, the Kuwaiti Investment Company is a leader, not only in the Arab world but in the Middle East. We were one of the first to enter the European bond market which was established in the Sixties, before many Europeans and certainly before the Japanese, since we entered this market in 1964-65, and participated in the issuance and management of international bonds.

[Question] What about the world monopolies, and the other investment companies which will not be terribly pleased to see an Arab company competing with them in their fields?

[Answer] Without a doubt, the western organizations have deep experience in the investment field, which has just recently entered our life. But we are trying to comprehend its laws as quickly as possible, by seeking the aid of Arab and international capabilities experienced in this field.

Nevertheless, it must be stressed that the world organizations rely on their work and experience first of all, in addition to the financial might which supports them, as for example huge organizations like the "Dresner Bank" or "West Alby" [transliterated].

For example, the funds and profits of Volkswagen, Mercedes-Benz or Siemens are circulated by the banks I referred to.

In the United States, General Motors or Exxon is supported by Morganstein International [transliterated].

As for we Arabs, we don't have any organizations supporting us on this scale, and therefore the main support of such organizations are the governments. This is an extremely important point, because in order for the Arab organizations to enter into competition with western or Japanese organizations, the Arab governments have to deal with these organizations and support them.

Here I am not being chauvinist, in the sense that each government has to deal with the investment company in its own country. Rather, Arab investment companies in general should find support, cooperation and transactions from the Arab governments all together, and should be given priority. Instead of dealing in billions of dollars with Chase Manhattan, let 100 million be allocated to the Arab company concerned.

[Question] But don't you believe that cooperation and coordination among Arab investment organizations will have positive results?

[Answer] Naturally, this is true. We are doing something in this respect. For example, the Gulf Bank was founded by the Kuwaiti government along with Qatar, and so forth. But what I mean to say is that such organizations must gain support from the Arab states, through cooperation with them as a minimum.

[Question] As a company from an Arab country, do you obtain facilities in other Arab countries?

[Answer] Unfortunately we do not get any special facilities, and we deal with foreign companies on an equal footing.

[Question] Don't you believe that there is a need for such facilities?

[Answer] Of course there is a need.

[Question] What are the dangers which this company is facing? Are there any particular dangers?

[Answer] The dangers we face are dangers which any commercial project or bank might face. There are the possibilities of bankruptcy and exposure to political dangers, but we are not the only ones confronted with this.

[Question] What are the most important projects you have undertaken?

[Answer] Our biggest projects are in the field of issuing bonds. The company has come to have an outstanding name and good reputation in world note markets.

As for real estate projects, there is the "Kew Island" (transliterated) project which, in spite of what is rumored, is a successful project which is yielding profits. It should be mentioned that the organizations tried to prevent us from undertaking this project. There is also the Atlanta tourism complex in South Carolina in the United States, which is also a successful project, and the Imada Hotel in Bahrain.

[Question] What about industrial projects?

[Answer] The most outstanding one is the Sumed Project in Egypt, which is a vast, successful project.

[Question] Do you have the local personnel to manage the company efficiently?

[Answer] Yes, of course. We have three generations of young Kuwaitis who have been trained in this field. Right now we have a program for training and preparing local personnel at company headquarters in Kuwait, but we still send overseas some personnel who need specialization in higher fields.

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DEVELOPMENT FUND TO FINANCE PROJECTS IN JORDAN, SUDAN, ELSEWHERE

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 6 Apr 80 p 10

[Article: "Kuwaiti Fund Studies a Group of Projects in Arab Countries Worth 559 Million Dinars"]

[Text] Experts at the Kuwaiti Development Fund are studying a group of vital projects which the fund will finance in a number of Arab countries--Jordan, Tunisia, the Sudan, Syria, Somalia and Morocco. These projects are still in the stage of research and technical studies to determine their economic benefits.

In Jordan, the fund will implement a potash project and a phosphate fertilizer project worth 208 million Kuwaiti dinars. This project will produce close to 1.5 million tons of potassium chloride a year, in addition to 740,000 tons of phosphate fertilizer. In Tunisia, the fund will study the Kaf Shafayir phosphate ore project in the northern part of the Matlawi region. This project will cost an estimated 37 million dinars. In the Sudan, the fund will develop the railroad and set up the Kinanah sugar project, at a cost of 209 million dinars. In Syria there is the 103-kilometer Homs-Tripoli road project, which will cost 24 million dinars. In Somalia the fund will provide a loan for the project to irrigate 6,260 hectares of farm land, in addition to developing animal resources to the amount of 9 million dinars. In Morocco the fund will contribute to the al-Masirah and the Tazurt Dam projects, which are huge dams to retain irrigation water and help irrigate 90,000 hectares, and which will cost about 74 million dinars.

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LAW FOR PROTECTING LOCAL INDUSTRY OUTLINED

Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 6 Apr 80 p 10

[Article: "Commerce Ministry Raises Customs Tariff On Foreign Goods Similar To Those Produced Locally, In Order To Protect National Industry"]

[Text] The investigative and supervisory agencies of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry are following up the exemption of industrial installations registered or licensed according to Law No 14, issued on the basis of a recommendation by the Industrial Development Committee with cabinet approval, dealing with developing industrial installations and facilitating their establishment. The law includes the exemption of industrial installations from taxes, including income taxes, for 10 years, as well as exempting machines, equipment and spare parts needed by the industrial installations, in addition to raw materials and semi-processed goods, from taxes. This law is aimed at protecting local goods and industries from foreign competition, by raising the customs tariff on imported goods similar to those locally produced, provided that local production's quantitative capabilities are taken into consideration. Also, exports of locally manufactured products are exempted from all export fees and taxes. In addition, the agencies concerned will facilitate the citizens' obtaining receipts for their industrial purchases, and the state will materially contribute to the expenses of studies and research into establishing new industries being done by the owners of industrial projects, for the purpose of ascertaining the industry's benefit and future, on the basis of a recommendation by the Industrial Development Committee with the approval of the commerce minister. In case the project passes this study, its owner will pay all expenses pertaining to the study, and in case it fails the state will contribute about half the costs of the study. Also, in case new industries are established, the owners of the industrial establishments will be entitled to obtain a loan from the Kuwaiti Credit and Savings Bank with the approval of the commerce and industry minister. The bank will set the conditions and amount of these loans.

The Kuwaiti industry protection law stresses the need to give preference, in government purchases, to locally produced products, provided that these products are similar to foreign products in quality and price.

The industrial and economic advantage of a number of industrial projects proposed by citizens has been studied.

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REPORT ON LEBANESE ECONOMY

Beirut L'ORIENT - LE JOUR, in French 23, 24, 25 Apr 80

[Article by Dr Andre Chaib, Professor of Economics at AUB, "The Lebanese Economy Between Laissez-Faire and Anarchy"]

[23 Apr 80, pp 1, 2: "I--Dislocation of the System of Production"]

[Text] In a series of three articles, of which the first appears today, Dr Andre Chaib, professor of economics at the American University of Beirut, analyzes the evolution of the Lebanese economic system since the 2-year war.

In this first article the disorganization of the system of production is called to the reader's attention (dislocation of markets, unemployment and deficient investment). Subsequently the effect of the war on the system of distribution of revenues and wealth will be examined; in the second installment of the series inflation, exodus [of capital], taxation and public expenditures will be dealt with in turn.

Finally, in a third and last article the author arrives at the conclusion that no solution to the problems of the Lebanese economy is possible until after the reorganization of the national statistics, and until recourse to economic research and the rationalization of economic decisions made by the state is accomplished.

When thinking of the innumerable problems which today harrass the Lebanese economy one cannot avoid recalling with nostalgia the quarter century of rapid and easy economic success which came to such an abrupt end in 1975 at the moment when--unexpected but implacable--the cataclysm of violence and destruction commenced to break over us. That lovely era is perhaps gone forever. It was one of stable prices (between 1951 and 1974 the annual rate of inflation must have hovered around an average of 3 percent), one in which there was an admirable growth of the banking system, a diversification of industry and export trade, in short a rapid economic growth and development which was quite harmonious.

Everyone agrees in attributing these successes essentially to the vigor of free private enterprise in Lebanon. That is to say, to the proper functioning of our market economy. From this standpoint the lesson of neoclassical economic theory is meaningful: the proper functioning of markets guarantees effective utilization of natural and human resources and an optimal organization of production. Without claiming that our economic system has ever attained the "perfection" necessary to the functioning of economic models, one must recognize that it did possess without doubt (and perhaps always possesses) these desirable qualities of flexibility and dynamism which, in the absence of an "active" policy of the state, can alone explain the remarkable economic performance during the years of the sixties and seventies.

Research undertaken in the United States in recent years by the National Bureau of Economic Research (notably by Ann Krueger and Jagdish Bhagwati) demonstrates among other things that in the context of developing countries the success achieved by those with market economies is not so much due to an inherent superiority of laissez-faire economics as it is to the fact that, in refraining from intervening in the operation of their economies the governments of these countries (including Lebanon) will have avoided the accumulation of "errors" and the subjugation to their almost endless consequences, as witnessed among the majority of the "controlled" economies in the under-developed world.

The two year war and the period of uncertainty which has followed for three years have struck a hard blow to our system of markets and rendered the operation of these markets less and less perfect. One could no longer assume that the mechanism of free enterprise (which in some cases perhaps was already showing signs of suffocation in 1975) could guarantee the effective and optimal utilization of national resources in the future. These new "imperfections" stemming from the fact that the war had disrupted the operation of our economic system are all sources of inefficacy and waste, that is real economic loss and impoverishment.

Among these new problems disturbing the economic order at least four deserve to be mentioned. First of all is the question of the disappearance of that condition which is essential to the operation of the markets, assurance of the mobility of goods, factors of production and consumers. Of course this phenomenon of immobility is only partially in effect since within a given "region" goods and people retain a certain amount of freedom of movement and in some instances are even more mobile than before 1975, the war having served to bring towns and provinces closer together in human and geographic terms. But within the politico-geographic zones which make up the present day Lebanon the boundaries are often, and for a good many, unbreachable.

The economic effects of this partitioning are comparable to those which would be experienced following the sudden cessation of commercial interchange between two countries whose economies had become intimately connected. That is to say first of all that identical goods could develop different prices, "too low here" and elsewhere "too high," but always different from

the single price of a unified market. This phenomenon, which is equally applicable to both the goods and labor markets, can lead in many ways to the waste of resources and inefficiency in production.

Thus for example, if a specialized worker is not in a position to cross over one of the boundaries which may be invisible but which have nevertheless been carefully drawn by "events," one may find oneself constrained in the forbidden zone to pay more for a less qualified worker, a real loss. In the same fashion a given zone may now be obliged to produce a wider variety of goods and services at the expense of an efficient regional specialization of production slowly built up over a 20 year period of development. Obviously to this cost must be added the socio-economic problems entailed in the development of urban anarchy and the pollution of the suburbs which had been solely residential previously by a thousand means (including noise).

From now on in our neighborhoods and villages we are going to have to live in the middle of hundreds of shops of all kinds, banks, offices and restaurants. The city, like the violence, is omnipresent nowadays.

The immobility of the consumer explains also the rapid multiplication of branches of the same enterprise, a process which is taking place to a certain extent at the expense of the consumers themselves, who must endure the rise in prices due to the costs of the installation and often also to the reduction of the average rate of utilization of capacity as set up by branch, a real loss.

No estimate has been made of the losses due to the problem of the relative immobility of goods and persons in Lebanon. A serious examination of the consequences of the war ought to take this into consideration. And whatever the degree of economico-political decentralization in Lebanon may be in the future it is imperative in the interest of all that the movement of goods and persons be restored and guaranteed.

Exodus and Unemployment

The two year war has, among other things, seriously aggravated the employment situation in Lebanon. When this problem takes the familiar form of unemployment the real losses experienced by the economy from the fact of the underemployment of its human resources may in principle be measured by the difference between actual national production and the maximum production possible. It will suffice to compare the number of workers employed today in Lebanon (a little over 300,000) to the production force employed in 1973 (a little more than 500,000 workers) to give an idea of the considerable losses—deficiencies in production or earnings—which are doubtless due to unemployment. It is still very difficult to make an accurate estimate of these losses.

It is appropriate here to recall that nearly 200,000 Lebanese workers have gone abroad since the "events" to seek their fortunes, notably in the Gulf Arab states, which employ more than half. While it affords a temporary

solution to the problem of unemployment this massive exodus remains disquieting: in fact it constitutes an important and permanent--because the exodus is continuing--drain on the human capital of Lebanon.

To a large extent, however, this exodus is a salvation. According to estimates of the Bank of Lebanon transfers made by overseas Lebanese during 1977--4 to 5 billion pounds--made possible a total consumption in excess of national revenue. But let us not be carried away by the thought of these pounds (or these dollars), first of all because these revenues from abroad add fuel to an inflation which is already alarming. And next, in part at least, because they are only replacing a national production rendered impossible because of the war. Also, however, because these some 200,000 voluntary exiles include among them numbers of technicians and staff whose departures have plunged and leave numerous enterprises, if not exactly in disarray, at least in great difficulty. And finally, because the Lebanese workers who frequently elect to take permanent residence abroad, constitute a distinct benefit to their adopted countries, the fruits of a long-term investment paid for by the establishment in Lebanon which paid for their education; an irony in which the people of the South or the Mountains end up subsidizing the development of Michigan or California. To all this one must ultimately add the psychological effects of temporary exile, the social problems created by the dispersal of families and the cultural problems engendered by the prolonged absence of a large number of workers.

When the hour of peace and economic revival is at hand the return of these emigres threatens to take place under conditions of anarchy with grave repercussions for the optimum labor market and the balance of payments. A sound policy of reconstruction and development must take these problems under advisement from this moment on.

At the same time it will be necessary to resolve the issue of some 100,000 persons who have been absorbed by the parallel activities sector, whose productivity and contribution to the national production is very poorly understood. It is nevertheless legitimate to consider that, to a large measure, the earnings of these "workers" stem more from transfer operations than from production. Thus it is essentially a question of unemployed persons in the guise of tradesmen and middlemen of all sorts for whom it will be necessary one day to find productive employment.

Let us add to this finally the thousand and one problems relating to education and to the building up of production forces which must participate in reconstruction. When one considers that this enterprise must get under way without delay then our ignorance with regard to all of these questions takes on the aspect and dimensions of a tragedy.

Inadequacy of Investment

But the future continues to be forgotten in the economic decisions being taken in Lebanon today. The private sector, terrorized by the climate of political uncertainty and economic sabotage which surrounds us, is avoiding long-term investment.

Everyone is familiar during the past years with the speculation which flourishes in all of its forms, the prevalence of investment geared to quick returns (which is rarely industrial). There is one of our greatest problems: because the future is uncertain our economic system, seized with panic, chooses to mortgage. At the same time the possibilities of growth and development to come are seriously compromised. Of course industrial investment continues: a little more than 200 million pounds in 1978. But industrial production is dwindling and the rate of utilization of capacity is at the lowest point.

In 1977 the share of investments in gross national expenditures did not amount to 16 percent, which is hardly enormous for an emerging country ravaged by a 2 year war. But one must not cast stones at the industrialists: if they are wrong to be afraid it is necessary to demonstrate it to them--that is to say--when they do not refuse to comply with the rules of competition--have the courage to subsidize them.

It needs to be stated that the State--for whom the problems of investment risk are far from being as grave as they are for the individual--has not compensated for the deficiency of private investment. The figures are not well known but it is known that the budgetary deficits during recent years (perhaps 900 million in 1978) have not gone to finance development or reconstruction but far more to cover expenditures of slight or no productivity. In a perfect market economy there is a theoretical optimum public expenditure. This outlay increases in proportion to the deterioration of these markets. How can we expect in our situation, wherein a number of production sectors are semi-paralyzed, to produce public goods--first of all roads but also telephones, electricity, sewers and a hundred other services--the demand for which has not ceased to grow since the end of the war.

These four issues: immobility of goods and persons, unemployment and the brain-drain, deficient long-term investment, deficient production of public goods are far from exhausting the problems of our economic system and notably overlook the effect of the present redistribution of wealth upon the organization of production. But the lesson is clear: we must go into action right away, for if it is true that time resolves problems by itself it is often accomplished by the elimination of both the cause and effect at the same time, that is to say by abruptly putting an end to life.

To refuse to act today would be inexcusable, whatever the obstacles might be, and whatever the pretext. For that would be to commit the folly of choosing in spite of everything the solitary path which leads slowly and surely to death.

[24 Apr 80, 1, 2--"II--Dislocation of the System of Distribution"]

[Text] [Introductory two paragraphs omitted--they essentially repeat the content of those heading Installment I] The state of the distribution of income in Lebanon has always been very poorly understood. Before the war the conclusions of an IRFED report (outdated today by more than 20 years)

were cited readily, and this report painted a rather black picture. But between the end of the 1950's and the eve of the war the Lebanese economy and society underwent a structural transformation of such a character that all reference to the conclusions of IRFED on the subject of distribution in Lebanon could have no other interest than historic, even on the eve of the war. The IRFED conclusions have long since joined the dust and dusk of the public archives and have left us only a general impression of a very unequal distribution of income in the Lebanon of the beginning 1960's.

What was the situation in 1975? There has not been any study, any public document which deals with this question. One may nevertheless imagine that with the progress of a system of social security, the development of public education, the growth of the cities and the temporary emigration of a large number of workers to the Arab countries the distribution of income in 1975 could not be any less egalitarian than in 1960.

Since 1975 new factors have come about to transform the system of distribution once more, but this time in a manner often anarchic and almost always uncontrollable. But this is an essential question: it is well known what effect an inequitable distribution of income can have on the political and social development of a people. But it is often forgotten that the state of the distribution of income itself affects economic decisions concerning the utilization of national resources and the organization of production. Refusal to encompass the problems of distribution then is to more or less choose to leave the economy on its own, that is to say under the present conditions of economic disorder in Lebanon to abandon it to anarchy.

Among the factors likely to have grave repercussions upon the mechanism of distribution, the importance of which has not ceased to increase as a consequence of the war, at least five deserve to be defined and briefly analyzed here. In no case, however, is it possible to decide with certainty upon the effect these recent phenomena could have or have had upon the progressiveness of the mechanism of distribution in Lebanon, that is to say upon the equity of the apportionment of the national income.

A Scourge, Inflation

This apportionment is seriously influenced these days by an economic phenomenon which is relatively recent in Lebanon but which has dogged the majority of the developed world as well as the third world mercilessly and for a long period of time; inflation.

Because it tends to "impoverish" particularly persons with fixed incomes--salaried workers, retirees, small savers--inflation in effect brings about a redistribution of national income to the advantage of those persons with variable incomes. It acts then like a regressive tax which serves excessively to cut off the income of those who are incapable of defending themselves against it. It is unfortunate that we do not know exactly the social categories in which persons of fixed means are grouped or at least those whose incomes are the least likely to rise at the same rate as the general price

averages. Insofar as one may consider that salaried workers and small savers group together in "classes" called middle class it would appear that it is to the detriment of these latter that the other social categories benefit as a result of inflation. For in general--this is often overlooked--inflation cannot be equally detrimental to all. Only a serious study of the question could indicate to us those happy elect who escape the yoke these days.

Whether this redistribution as a consequence of inflation may be just and acceptable or frankly immoral is a question which is outside the province of the economist. He cannot, however, prevent himself from wondering about the effects of this redistribution upon the utilization of natural resources.

If for example the traditional "investors" or the "entrepreneurs" who are the most dynamic come out ahead from the anarchic and obscure play of a galloping inflation this would have favorable repercussions upon the growth of the national economy. If, on the other hand, only the consumers and speculators profit from this play economic development would be seriously compromised. Instead of resting content, then, with deploring the inflation, and--as the tendency is too often--holding the outside world to blame (without ever knowing exactly why), it is necessary today to try to determine how it operates and what its consequences are.

Social Violence and Disorders

The war has also brought us that other plague, violation of private property. In all its forms--confiscation, theft, maritime piracy--this phenomenon will have contributed to a redefinition of the apportionment of wealth in Lebanon. The most deprived consumers will often prove to have profited the most from this cycle of anarchy. Consumer goods formerly coveted and inaccessible suddenly abandon the display windows of the most elegant shops as if by magic to be sold at ridiculous prices. To others have been afforded the means by which to trade their hovels for sumptuous residences abandoned by their unfortunate but prudent occupants. Can it be that anarchy will have proved to have contributed to an important reduction of social inequalities at the expense of a limited number of unfortunates? We are ignorant with respect to this as well. But when one considers that the "homeless" and "displaced" of the war (perhaps 200,000 persons) belong for the most part to the lower strata of the population, one is brought to believe that the violence of these past years, while enriching a few privileged individuals, will also prove to have plunged tens of thousands of persons into the vicious circle of poverty, doubtless accentuating the inequality of the distribution of income.

Exodus and Transfers

Here again the temporary emigration of Lebanese workers will have supplied a partial solution to the problems of the post-war period by furnishing productive employment abroad to a large number of people and a substantial

financial return to their families in Lebanon. We do not know precisely in what way these massive transfers from abroad contribute to the determination of the distribution of income in Lebanon. Since the majority of these emigrant workers stems from the lower or middle "classes" it would seem legitimate to consider that the transfers in question contribute to rendering the system of apportionment more progressive, putting aside--for the moment at least--the germs of a social agitation which the war has perhaps made inevitable.

These three factors: inflation, violence, emigration--attributable in great measure to the war--have a fundamental characteristic in common: they are not directly controlled (or controllable) by the State. But the war has also undermined the capacity of the State to influence or change the distribution of income. In normal times the State is the only entity which truly enjoys this privilege: by taxation and by public expenditures it can affect the real income of each citizen.

Direct and Indirect Taxes

But one must not entertain illusions: the public sector in Lebanon has always been circumscribed, its part in the overall national expenditures hovering around 10 percent, while in most Western European countries or the United States for example this proportion is clearly higher at 30 percent.

Since the war State finances have incessantly deteriorated: the size and significance of the budgetary deficits since 1975 and the problems posed by their financing are a secret to no one. These problems are obviously not without effect upon the apportionment of income. It is known, for example, that a progressive system of taxation on incomes can contribute to a fairer distribution. However, since the war the relative significance of income taxes within the total receipts of the State has constantly decreased. In 1978 half of the revenues of the State stemmed from customs duties, which are clearly "regressive," since they take no consideration of the individual's capacity for payment and subject everyone to the same rate of taxation without discrimination. The situation was doubtless not much more brilliant before the war--indirect taxes having always been the most important in Lebanon--but the structure of public receipts could have evolved otherwise between 1974 and 1980 if the war had not intervened, there being a tendency for direct taxes to increase as a country develops.

A detailed study of the tax structure and its effects on the distribution of income must however take into consideration the fact that the sector of parallel activities escapes official taxation completely and that very often official taxation is replaced by a "partisan taxation," about which we are almost totally ignorant.

In so much as the salaried employees are more easily taxable than are those persons engaged in the free professions, and considering the growing importance in Lebanon of indirect duties, it would seem that the war, by impeding the development of an equitable and effective fiscal system, will have contributed to the exacerbation of our problem of inequality in the apportionment of income.

The Nature of Public Expenditures

An analysis of expenditures of the State also leads to that same conclusion. For however ignorant we may be concerning the exact structure of public expenditures we know that the most easily discernible item is salary payments for civil servants, that is to say (and without wishing to denigrate the efforts of the administration) that this involves for the most part services of little or no productivity. At most one could see perhaps in the public function a mechanism of transfer, the public sector absorbing a large number of persons of which many would have had difficulty in finding jobs in the private sector. But the problem of financing remains: because when they are not financed by the creation of money (that is to say by inflation), these salaries are financed by public receipts which could have been utilized to finance investment projects.

As it were, then, the nation and the generations to come are being deprived of the fruits of public investment by subsidizing the salaries of public servants. It is possible that this situation is justified by important considerations of policy and equity but this is beyond the scope of an economic analysis.

Besides, it must not be forgotten that for budgetary as well as political considerations the State has been neglecting for a number of years to develop the social services--health, education and social assistance--which are particularly directed to the least favored categories of the population. It is also these categories of society who pay the price of the "policy" of State expenditures, which is another way for them to pay the price for the war.

It is still very difficult--in the absence of a detailed and quantitative study--to grasp definitively the complexities of the question of apportionment of income in Lebanon, especially since the factors rapidly defined above do not all act to diminish the equality of this apportionment. But this much is certain: the rapid and anarchic change in the mechanism of apportionment brought about by the war renders our social and economic reality confused and ambiguous and as a consequence makes the chances for salvation more uncertain.

But in order to deserve salvation it is necessary, lacking the power to comprehend the means, at least to attempt to define them. Economic research is doubtless one such attempt.

[25 Apr 80, pp 1, 2--"The Search for a New Equilibrium"]

[Text] [Introductory paragraph in bold-face not translated as it reiterates points made in the introduction to the series] The virtues of the Lebanese economic system continue to be extolled even after the war, doubtless quite rightly so. It is a pleasant exercise, useful perhaps, although too easy--nay, even dangerous--insofar as it pushes us to count our laurels, helping us to forget the economic demands of our new age, and renders us incapable of taking up the challenge which it presents to us.

Today it is a question first of all for us not just to try to convince ourselves that the liberal economic system adopted by Lebanon is the one which suits us best but rather to define the problems which are preventing the system from functioning in an effective manner. It is a question next of being able to find solutions which are likely to bring us out of this economic crisis in which we have been struggling for nearly five years now.

We have identified these problems; they are: dislocation of the goods and labor markets, unemployment and the brain-drain, deficient private investment and public expenditure, inflation, violence and budgetary deficits.

Although it is not exhaustive this list, both by its length and by the importance of its contents, indicates to us that it would be unrealistic to expect an automatic solution to these problems such as might be generated, for example by the dynamism and efficiency inherent in the market system.

For the future it is necessary to act, and without further delay to make an inventory of problems to be resolved and to establish ahead of time plans of action and policies. Two major obstacles at least will confront those who wish to undertake this marvellous task. The well intentioned will have to first of all assert with consternation that concerning the most grave economic problems which menace the Lebanese economy today we are completely in the dark.

In general everything is unknown, from statistical data to socio-economic debate on the questions under consideration.

We are not unaware of nor do we deny the value of the studies and analyses recently undertaken for the State account, we assert only that they are not legion.

Next it must be recognized that the instruments of economic policy at the disposal of the State in this post-war period are more than ever scanty or ineffectual. So it will be necessary to undertake the resolution of our economic problems in a climate of ignorance and impotence. The task is not going to be easy, and in fact it can only become more and more difficult as our misfortunes accumulate. We shall content ourselves here with indicating several principles of solution, often already suggested by the economists who are concerned with the Lebanese question, and from which the reader may be able to extract some elements of a plan for the great economic problems of the hour.

Concerning the role of Economic Research

First of all Lebanon must apply itself right away to economic research.

To repeat:

Lebanon does not (not yet) have a center for economic research. Ironically the science of economics does not even figure among the disciplines subsidized by the National Council for Scientific Research. But who then is

looking after economic research in Lebanon (and do they really look after it)? There are the universities, but very few, and solely according to their means, which are, in those cases which have been considered, either very limited or nil. The Council for Reconstruction and Development has, according to it, financed a number of economic studies, notably ones related to the "plan" of reconstruction and development, execution of which is not even near to inauguration. Finally (and perhaps especially), the research centers of the Bank of Lebanon and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Beirut have made a continuing effort since the war to restore the Central Directorate of Statistics which disappeared following the "events."

Official statistics must be set up as soon as possible so that research may become possible and useful. It is also necessary that that research take place around a national center of economic research that will inspire confidence and which will have among its functions the establishment of a functional macroeconomic model of the Lebanese economy to enable us the better to comprehend the relationships among the multitude of economic variables become entangled in a semblance of total anarchy in Lebanon.

For only economic analysis is in a position to render possible an evaluation of different policies which present themselves today for choice by the holders of power. Without it it will be impossible, for example, for us to understand the precise effect a change in interest rates will have upon accounts in Lebanese pounds, upon an issue of treasury bonds or a budgetary deficit until after the decisions have been made, which is to say in almost every case, too late.

In Favor of an Economic Policy

However badly informed they may be the economic authorities of the country are not totally without recourse. Under the present conditions of economic depression they continue to control a number of instruments which are capable of augmenting total demand for the purpose of economic expansion. Thus subsidies to certain industrial sectors (which will have to be defined), the encouragement of private investment ought to be realizable. The growth of real production which would ensue could serve to check an inflation which has become apparently uncontrollable.

Furthermore, the reasons can be examined for the present deficiency of public investment. The State pays its civil servants well. Why would it not be in a position to pay the entrepreneurs it would charge with rebuilding our highway network or the technicians who would restore to order our means of telecommunications? It is difficult to believe that political constraints might by themselves be in a position to paralyze completely the process of reconstruction. At any rate, whatever these constraints may be--be it political, economic or human--it is necessary to begin by defining them before launching an attack against them. And that is a considerable task in itself.

Moreover, it is time that the State should add to its modest arsenal of instruments of economic policy some new weapons. We are told that the

State intends to make a public issue of medium and long-term treasury bonds. If the rates of interest are attractive this would be a measure to mobilize private savings to the ends of economic development while avoiding recourse to inflationary procedures, that is to say in particular borrowing at the Central Bank. This measure would serve also to support the Lebanese pound, since in reducing the discrepancy between interest on investments in Lebanese pounds and interest on investments in foreign exchange it would contribute to making the latter investments less attractive. However the funds which are attracted in this way and placed at the disposition of the State must be utilized in a productive manner and also they must not render access to national savings more difficult for the private sector.

Before instituting new measures, then, it will be necessary for the State to forecast their possible effects. For that it must be in possession of data on the problem, which--in the absence of sufficient national statistics--would not be easy. Thus we suddenly rejoin the vicious circle of ignorance.

Moral Obligation and Improvisation

Fiscal and monetary economic authorities must also coordinate their use of the instruments which are at their disposal. Measures have recently been taken in this direction; a fine initiative from which the fruits ought soon to be appreciated.

The task of the State is not an easy one--no one is overlooking this fact--but it is still necessary. In a great number of cases political groupings have taken over the task of the State and have succeeded in exercising an effective regional political power. While awaiting the political reorganization of Lebanon it is legitimate to inquire whether these groupings do not have--in default of law--the moral obligation to ponder the socioeconomic problems of the regions which they control. The task of pursuing this question is left to jurists and specialists in constitutional law since it does not belong to economics (except for the concern with accelerating the process of economic development in Lebanon).

At any rate it is sure that a liberal dose of improvisation will be added to all economic measures taken by the State these days.

In order to be able to propose solutions it is necessary first of all to be informed. The importance of statistics, of a total inventory of our national resources, of an industrial census and a definition of the economic problems which condemn us today to stagnation is elementary.

If the establishment of a data bank and economic research continue to be neglected it is still possible that our economic system will restore itself anyway without effort and without the assistance of an energetic economic policy, and that the day of economic stability and peace will return to us. But what if it does not restore itself...?

BRIEFS

LIBYAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT--Sharjah, 25 May--Libyan Secretary of Foreign Affairs Dr 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam at-Turayki has called on all Arab countries to put all Arab potentials, particularly economic ones including oil at the service of the battle against the enemy. In an interview with the newspaper AL-KHALIJ today, the Libyan minister said that the United States is a party to the conflict and that it would be illogical of the enemy exploits Arab potentials against the Arab nation. At-Turayki expressed his country's support for the Iranian revolution, but added that his country will not support Iran against any Arab country. Referring to Libya's relations with Syria, At-Turayki said: These relations stem from the fact that the two countries form a single confrontation front and that they have big common objectives. At-Turayki denied that the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front summit resolution on the Western Sahara has been distorted. He said: This resolution was adopted with no reservations by anyone. At-Turayki criticized the United States and the United Kingdom for expelling Libyan diplomats from their territories. At-Turayki stressed Libya's right to ask for compensation from Germany, the United Kingdom and Italy for the losses inflicted on it during World War II. [Text] [JN280944 Manama Gulf News Agency in Arabic 0835 GMT 28 May 80]

CSO: 4802

LEADERSHIP CHANGE MAY NOT AFFECT DOMESTIC, FOREIGN POLITICS

Paris LE MONDE in French 23 Apr 80 p 7

[Article by L. G.]

[Text] Beirut--The palace revolution which ousted Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il from power in the PDY seems to be the expression of a return to domestic equilibrium and to relaxation rather than a radical reorientation of that country's foreign policy. Endowed with a treaty of alliance with the Soviet Union, the only Marxist-Leninist country not only in the Gulf but also in the Arab world, the PDY is not about to overthrow that alliance. In any event people in progressive Palestinian circles, specifically in the DFLP of Mr Hawatmah, who has had privileged relations with the PDY regime for a long time and whose ideology he shares, are convinced of it. "Domestic affair," people call it, as they emphasize that his comrades bore up less and less well under Mr Isma'il's hegemonism and omnipotence.

It is certain that internal rivalries have played a part. They had been crystalized in 1979 around the "Mohsen affair." Wishing to strengthen his control over the Army, Mr Isma'il had named a state security minister, Mohammed Said Abdallah, called Mohsen, who tried to exercise his authority over the services of military instruction, to the detriment of the defense minister. The defense minister, Ali Antar, an old comrade of President Isma'il, opposed this violently and finally obtained a kind of victory, the State Security Ministry having been suppressed and replaced by a commission presided over by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, the chief of government. It was the latter who thus came out the winner in this trial of force, assuring himself additionally the not negligible alliance of Mr Antar. After that a struggle for influence went on in Aden and has just come to a conclusion with the eviction of Mr Isma'il.

The PDY in any case is a country with too great a strategic importance, at the entry to the Gulf, for its palace revolutions not to immediately agitate the foreign offices.

The Soviet Union has not officially reacted, but the ambassadors of the German Democratic Republic and Bulgaria have been received by the new chief of state, to whom they transmitted the congratulations of their governments.

Receiving the heads of the diplomatic missions, Salem Saleh Mohammed, the PDRY minister of foreign relations, assured them that "the policy of his country would remain unchanged both on the internal and external levels," at the same time that he informed them officially of the dismissal of Abd-al-Fattah Isma'il.

Simultaneously, some PDRY emissaries bearing personal messages from the new president were dispatched to the Yemeni Arab Republic, to Saudi Arabia, to Kuwait, to the United Arab Emirates, to Syria, to Lebanon (in other words to the Palestinian resistance) and to Libya. It is noted that Saudi Arabia and its allies on the Gulf are on the itinerary of President Nasir Muhammad's envoys along with the partners of the PDRY in the Steadfastness Front. The Beirut press also believes that the change in Aden could facilitate an arrangement of the conflict which has set the PDRY and Iraq against each other for more than a year and which had led Bagdad to sponsor an opposition front in the PDRY presided over by 'Abd-al-Qawi Makkawi.

Concerning the reconciliation with the YAR, the principal partner of the PDRY, it is noted that the new president made an official visit there on 13 October 1979 in his condition as prime minister; the upsets that had occurred in Aden should not then have any negative effects on the process, and it is to a certain degree a "continuity" in the change which we are probably witnessing in Aden.

12116
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GULF STATES CONTEMPLATE IRAQ-IRAN CONFLICT

Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 12 Apr 80 p 20

[Article by Najib 'Abd-al-Hadi: "The War Opens Its Doors To the Gulf"]

[Text] Will the Iraq-Iran situation explode and ignite the fuse of war between the two countries? How long will the policy of self-restraint continue to exist? Will the fuse of war stay confined to the border regions, or will it go beyond them to encompass other regions and perhaps other countries?

These questions are being discussed today in the various Gulf political circles which are following the aggravation and serious development of the incidents between Baghdad and Teheran. Political reports attributed to the parties concerned indicate the seriousness of the situation and the possibility of its explosion at any moment, especially since conditions are ready for the explosion and there are ample justifications.

It has been observed that the capitals of Arab states, and especially the Gulf states, have supported Iraq in everything pertaining to its dispute with Iran, the prime mover and director of which appears to be Imam Ayatollah Khomeyni himself. This support became clear from the telegrams of denunciation which the leaders of the area's states sent to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, in which they condemned the recent throwing of explosives in the Iraqi capital, which killed a number of citizens and wounded others.

Accurate reports obtained by AL-MUSTAQBAL mentioned that Iraq is prepared for any eventuality, and that it has placed part of its military forces at maximum readiness. This shows the "gravity and seriousness of the situation," as a Gulf official said, and "confronts all the Gulf states with a new equilibrium necessitating rapid action in various directions and on various levels to keep the region from ending up on top of a powder keg which might explode at any moment."

The reports say that "Iraq has found itself, out of self-defense, forced to take steps on the Arab and international levels to demonstrate its viewpoint about its dispute with Iran, and to throw light on aspects which were and

still are unclear." The reports also say that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn might proceed to send Iraqi delegations to a number of Arab and friendly capitals to explain Iraq's stand and clarify some points surrounding Iraqi-Iranian relations ever since the triumph of the Iranian revolution. This Iraqi step would occur in order to obtain the support of these states' leaders for the Iraqi position.

Some reports from Teheran and Baghdad indicate that there are certain parties which are trying to mediate between the two countries to prevent an escalation of the conflict's violence, and to attempt to defuse the explosion before a real war breaks out between the two neighboring countries.

But who are these parties? Are they capable of influencing the two sides so that they can succeed in mediating between them?

Informed Gulf sources think it unlikely that any such mediation would succeed, especially if it came from an Arab party, for Arab-Iranian relations are usually mixed with caution, if not downright shaky. Also, added to the nature of these relations is the nature of the governmental set-up in Iran, which prevents the arrangement of the climate necessary for the success of any attempt to fill in the deep abyss between Baghdad and Teheran which is getting wider day by day.

A senior Arab political figure told AL-MUSTAQBAL, "If we assume for the sake of argument that an Arab party is getting ready to play the role of mediator, then with whom would it mediate? With Imam Khomeyni? President Abol Hasan Bani-Sadr? The Revolution Command Council?"

The senior Arab political figure adds, "Before beginning on the first step, it has to be clear who actually rules Iran, and with which parties one must deal."

He cites the situation of the American hostages detained in their country's embassy in Iran, saying, "Whoever has followed the rhetorical line of this situation has observed the inconsistency of remarks and statements which have been and are being issued by Iranian officials, beginning with Imam Khomeyni, going on to President Bani-Sadr, and ending with Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh."

After this flood of unanswered questions come similar questions pertaining to the Palestinian mediation which Yasir 'Arafat announced he was ready to undertake for the purpose of mending the situation between Baghdad and Teheran. The upshot of these questions is: Has Yasir 'Arafat been testing the pulse of the Iraqis and the Iranians simultaneously, in order to find out their real reactions?

The task is difficult and extremely complicated, and no one can foresee what will happen, even though there are some who say that Teheran cannot easily respond, not because they don't want to put a stop to their dispute with

their neighbor, but because there are some people working to thwart all attempts to settle either their dispute with Iraq or their crisis with America because of the hostages.

An even more serious matter for the states of the region is the continuing concentration of American forces in the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea, as well as the Soviet concentration on the other side.

Therefore, informed circles are saying that what is going on in the region (which is an oil region) is not a regional matter or a local affair, but an international matter concerning the entire world, especially the two super-powers. The thing that the area's states fear is that their countries will be dragged into a cold or a hot war, and will become a starting point for this war or that one. Therefore, the political and diplomatic efforts now being made are directed at removing this region from the spheres of influence, and preventing it from entering the "door" of cold war. This "door," if it opens, will be difficult and perhaps even impossible to close.

8559
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FOREIGN POLICY REFLECTS DESIRE TO AVOID DEPENDENCY

Paris LE MONDE in French 23 Apr 80 p 7

[Article by Lucien George]

[Text] Beirut--After having given the impression that it was once again drawing closer to Saudi Arabia, the YAR seems more desirous than ever of maintaining its independence vis-a-vis its traditional protector as well as its policy of collaboration with the Marxists and the radicals of the Arab world.

The message of solidarity addressed by Ali 'Abdallah Salih to the summit of the Steadfastness Front, during its latest sessions in Tripoli, has come to demonstrate after many other indications that neither the \$300 million Saudi check which got to Sana last month nor the dispatching of an information minister, more or less progressive, indicate a return to the large neighbor's lap, as certain people have thought.

The president of the YAR had first refused to guarantee an old agreement on the delimitation of frontiers, considered among nationalist circles of the YAR as giving the lion's share to their neighbor because it involves the incorporation of the territories of Assir, Najran and Jizan, historically Yemeni, into the Saudi realm. 'Abdallah Salih also refused to dismiss the Soviet experts, to cancel the arms supplies from Moscow and to halt the sending of officers to the USSR for training. In the same vein, he is still continuing conversations with the progressive opposition, rallied around the National Democratic Front [NDF] and with the PDRY, for the purpose of unity. More precisely, while the Saudis were spending their millions, two envoys from the NDF, Messrs Sultan and Yahya, were secretly negotiating in Sana with the chief of state.

The motivations of President Salih have not failed to astonish people. In fact it is curious to verify that a man literally put into power by the Saudis after the assassination of President Ghassmi, precisely because he did not have any popular bases or any solid support in the Army, should have executed such an about-face. Without forgetting that he was saved by Saudi Arabia, Iraq and the United States when a little war with the PDRY was beginning to turn bad in February 1979. The turn-around of 'Abdallah Salih

can be explained by the behavior of the Saudis, who must have shown themselves to be particularly demanding with a man whom they considered very docile. Or, contrary to all their anticipations, the new chief of state showed that he was a zealous nationalist. The Saudis then looked for a way to replace him. Threatened, 'Abdallah Salih sought other alliances, retreating farther and farther from Riyadh. Just two months ago, the president of the YAR would have sensed an attempt at a coup d'etat instigated by the Saudis and led by two officers, Muhammad al 'Ansi and Mohamed Salabani. Another element which doubtlessly influenced the behavior of President Salih is the switch made inside the great tribes--including the Bakil tribe--more and more infiltrated by nuclei of the NDF.

Finally the PDRY decided to bet on President Salih and to make his job easier for him at the very moment when the latter was feeling himself the target of the Saudis and their Iraqi allies. The leaders in Aden obliged the NDF to call off the armed struggle and start a dialog with him.

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